

# OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE



Thursday, March 6, 2014

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## Welshpool

Tegwyn's memorabilia up for auction

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## Oswestry

Music festival proves another huge success

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## Property

The best properties for sale in the area

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## Threat to superfast broadband cash pot

A multi-million pound cash pot being made available to improve broadband speeds in rural Shropshire could be under threat - because the council can't afford to match-fund it.

The Government announced it was to make an additional £250 million available across the UK to roll out superfast broadband speeds, to give 95 per cent of the country access to the fastest connections by 2017.

But the requirement to match-fund at a local level could mean the Government will end up spending far less than £250m because cash-poor local authorities are unable to meet their part of the deal. The £12.8m cash pot earmarked for this county, of which £11.38m was for Shropshire and £1.42m for Telford and Wrekin, is already under threat.

The need for money to allow take-up of the scheme comes as Shropshire Council plans £80m budget cuts over the next three years.

Steve Charnley, council cabinet member for broadband, said: "This makes the match-funding an issue that will require some thought."

"We'll be looking for support from various sources to get the match-funding and really make use of this extra money and the opportunity it gives to get Shropshire better connected to faster fibre broadband."

## Plas Wilmot on agenda

ACCESS to a housing development on the orchard, paddock and vegetable garden where Shropshire war poet Wilfred Owen played at soldiers as a small boy is set to be discussed by Shropshire councillors next week.

Developers have already been granted outline planning permission to build seven homes in the grounds of Plas Wilmot, in Weston Lane, and hope to get permission for the access road when the north planning committee meets on Tuesday. Plas Wilmot is a listed building.

# TAX PAYERS HIT BY NEW BUDGET

**COUNCIL tax payers will be hit in the pocket after Powys County Council finally agreed a new budget on Wednesday.**

Eight hours of debate over two days finally led to the council's budget being set after fears that responsibility for running the council would have been taken over by the Welsh Government if no decision could be reached.

Now council tax payers will be asked to stump up an extra 4.5 per cent in a budget which will see 400 jobs lost, day centres for elderly people losing direct council support and meals-on-wheels being hit.

There will also be a major review of education and post-16 education in Powys.

Last week the cabinet's recommendation for a 3.95 per cent increase in its list of planned savings failed to win a majority vote and the meeting was adjourned to allow the leaders of all the political parties to work out a solution to finding £20 million to balance the council's books.

The vote includes using £224,000 of reserves to balance the books.

The budget will include the "reconfiguration" of day centres for the elderly across the county although Cabinet member and Llanfyllin Councillor, Darren Mayor reassured worried councillors they will not close.

"The intention is not to close day centres but to remodel and 'disinvest' in them. This work is already underway in Newtown where it is envisaged a trust will run the day centre."

"We have to work together for the people of Powys otherwise I am scared about what will happen in the coming two years."

by Sue Austin

The council agreed to begin a review of the education service across Powys and councillors were warned that a review of the way education was delivered would carry on.

Grants to many organisations will be lost although a planned 50 per cent cut in the £90,000 grant to the Citizens Advice Bureau was changed to a 15 per cent cut.

Councillor David Price said: "How are we going to ensure that our theatres are going to remain open when we are cutting 100 per cent of our grants to the arts."

There was a plea from the Liberal leader on the council, Councillor John Morris, to look carefully at the jobs that will be lost.

"The 400 full time jobs equate to more when you look at part time jobs. That means 500-600 families will lose income. I would urge that we look at ways of keeping some of these positions."

Cuts include the scrapping of the council's Red Kite magazine, saving £36,000, saving £65,000 on a new staff lease car scheme, £126,000 cuts to the use of external consultants, £65,000 additional grant savings and reducing the contribution to election reserves by £30,000.

## Four artists put their work on display



Hanging her work at The Oswestry Heritage and Visitor Centre is Ceridwen Powell from Llanfair Caereinion.

ARTWORK has gone on show at Oswestry Heritage and Visitor Centre as part of a new exhibition which will run throughout this month.

Sue Miller, exhibition coordinator for the centre, said: "We've got four different artists, all with slightly different exhibitions."

The exhibition has been put together by four artists from the area.

Prizewinning flower painter Ann Easthope from Wellington, Katie Tyrie from Chester who creates fantasy and abstract botanic paintings, Mid-Wales based abstract and disability artist Ceridwen Powell, and wildlife photographer Jake Stephen, from near

Oswestry will all have their art on display.

Mrs Miller said finding people to exhibit each month is an interesting challenge.

She said: "I find artists online usually, and see some of their work if they have examples on the internet."

"Then I ask if they'd be interested in exhibiting, and then they choose what they'd like to display."

"Sometimes I'll help them choose items to put up, but usually there's no theme and I don't tell them what to do - it just depends on what they like to do and would like to exhibit."

"The exhibitions can be art, crafts

or pieces of sculpture, and the whole building is usually open for people to view the exhibitions."

Much of the programme of exhibitions for 2014 has already been finalised, with entries in to the Oswestry and Shropshire Art Competition entries scheduled to be put on display in August and September for public voting.

Chirk artist Jim Heath, who painted the large mural of a train station on a wall in Oswestry town centre last year, is showing another side of his talents with an exhibition of wood bird sculptures in the autumn.

## Dog owner is fined for foul offence

DOG owners who allow their pets to foul in public places have been warned they face tough action.

The vow comes after two fixed penalty notices were successfully served on dog owners in Welshpool and Builth Wells who failed to properly dispose of the mess.

The £75 fines were handed out because of information from the public, according to the Powys Community Safety Partnership. Officials at the partnership said residents and businesses can play a vital role in helping combat dog fouling in the county.

The partnership issued the message after Powys County Council, one of the members in the partnership, issued a fixed penalty notice to a Welshpool dog owner after a member of the public witnessed the incident taking place on open space land near Wildwood Court, Oldford.

Residents, local businesses, public bodies and housing associations are being urged to report any incidents of dog fouling that takes place on designated land to the council so that it can investigate.

Councillor Rosemarie Harris, chairman of the Powys Community Safety Partnership, said: "This is a clear example that by working together we can combat fouling in Powys."

## Group needs volunteers

INCREDIBLE Edible Oswestry is looking for more volunteers to help carry out projects around the town during 2014.

The group is set to meet on March 18 to discuss suggestions, plans and ideas for the coming year. Among the suggestions are to take on potential new sites in Morda opposite The Miner's Arms and on land opposite Stuart Barkley Cycles in Oswestry, apple tree planting in local schools and work on the Cambrian Railway Orchard Project.

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## NEWS

## PICTURE PREVIEW



Talented chefs have cooked up a Welsh title. Turn to page 11 for the full story.

## CONTACT US

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# Police report big rise in number of drink-drivers

By Sean Wozen-

THE number of motorists arrested for drink driving in Shropshire has risen by about 45 per cent in the space of almost two years, new figures have revealed.

More than 500 people were stopped by police and arrested during 2013 - 414 of which were prosecuted. It is a significant increase on the 359 arrests between April 2011 and March 2012 and the 377 recorded the previous year.

The worst offender among the 522 people arrested last year was found to have 157 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is 35.

Another offender had 221 milligrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood, almost three times over the legal limit of 80.

And 150 milligrammes of alcohol was found in 100 millilitres of urine in a third offender, well over the legal limit of 107.

The vast majority of the 414 people prosecuted in 2013 - 367 - were from the United Kingdom.

The second highest represented nation was Poland with 16 people prosecuted for drink drive offences, while nine were from Lithuania and seven from Latvia.

Meanwhile, 190 people were arrested for drink driving in Powys during 2013. The highest reading was 255 milligrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of urine.

Superintendent Nav Malik, from West Mercia Police, said drink driving remains a priority for the force - and warned offenders that they will lose their licence if caught.

He said: "Sadly, across West Mercia we still do arrest a number of people each week for drink driving. "Some of those arrested are breathalysed because they were speeding or driving erratically, while others are stopped during routine checks."

Mrs Katie Price, prosecuting, said: "The defendant became an alcoholic who would be verbally abusive to his wife, threw her around and punched her. "On December 30, at 6am, she was asleep in bed. Both had been drinking and had been arguing the night before. The defendant came in to the bedroom and bit her on the chin, beat her, pushed her off the bed and wrapped her head in the duvet."

Mr Jones said: "Since then we have been getting on and I haven't been in a pub this year."

## Oswestry kids in talent show



The Year 6 judges with the young winners of this year's Bellan's Got Talent competition.

MORE than 35 talented youngsters from a school in Oswestry showed off their musical, dance and gymnastics skills during a talent contest they organised themselves.

The pupil council from Oswestry School's prep department devised and presented Bellan's Got Talent - their version of ITV's Britain's Got Talent.

Fifteen hopeful acts, which included solo and group performances on a range of instruments.

Singing, mime, gymnastics and dance were performed in front of four judges from Year 6.

Karen Lentink, head of the prep department, said: "The variety of acts showcased was a great tribute to the talent within Bellan House and was superb entertainment."

"The judges enjoyed their moment in the spotlight as much as the contestants and kept the audience entertained with some amusing and honest commentary."

"The event took place entirely due to the dedication, organisation and initiative of the pupil council and prefects. They also took the decision to help raise funds for the Forest School

shelter's living roof by charging a £1 entrance fee collecting £75."

After a close competition, the Bellan's Got Talent winner was Luke Gambroudes from Year 6, who won a Booka book token for his guitar playing, with Anna Warner and Kizzy Lumley-Edwards, also in Year 6, coming second with their duet composition.

Joint third place went to Hannah Pritchard from Year 5 for her graceful and athletic gymnastic display and Dan Counter from Year 6 singing a Busted song.

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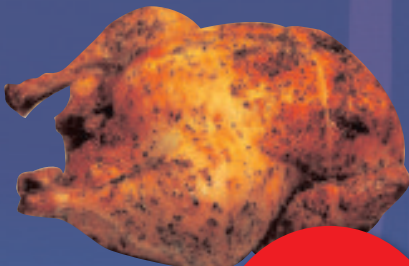
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## NEWS

## Choirs to join forces for series of shows

THREE musical groups will be joining forces to present post-Easter concerts in May in Oswestry and Wrexham.

Cantiones Choir, Oswestry Sinfonia and Glyndwr University Community Choir are rehearsing Mozart's Requiem and Pergolesi's Magnificat ahead of a concert on May 17 at Holy Trinity Church in Oswestry and a second on May 24 at St Giles' Parish Church in Wrexham.

The groups decided to work together as they share some common leadership - Gerry Howe, musical director of Cantiones is also associate conductor of Oswestry Sinfonia, while Richard Adamson is conductor of both Glyndwr University Community Choir and Oswestry Sinfonia.

Mr Howe said: "I am delighted to be part of this musical co-operation. It is always very positive for different groups to join together in order to share their musical experiences and the concert promises to be one not to be missed."

Tickets are £9 for adults, with under 16s admitted free.

Tickets for Oswestry are available from Rowanhorn in Old Chapel Court and Oswestry Heritage centre, with telephone bookings available by phoning (01691) 238227. Tickets for Wrexham are available from St Giles' Church Office or by calling (01978) 355808.

## Trio in court over letter

THREE people have appeared at Mold Crown Court to deny perverting the course of justice.

Matthew Burns, 22, of Welshpool, and Amanda Chambers, 44, and Richard Chambers, 47, both of Newtown, denied writing a false letter to Mold Crown Court.

# Hospital order for a man who attacked his mother

by Iain StJohn

**A MAN who launched a savage attack on his mother has been committed to hospital under the Mental Health Act.**

Liam Stewart, 32, of Oswestry, attacked his mother Susan so severely she looked like she had "come off very much the worst" after a boxing match, Shrewsbury Crown Court was told on Friday.

Judge Robin Onions told the court he "shuddered to think" what would have happened to Mrs Stewart had it not been for the action of neighbour Samantha Cobb who repeatedly tried to stop the attack despite being assaulted several times by Stewart herself.

The judge issued a hospital order, saying he was satisfied Stewart, of Swan Lane, who has suffered mental health problems for many years, was a risk to the public and a danger to his mother in particular.

The order contains a restriction order, meaning Stewart will only be released with the authority of the secretary of state for justice. The judge commended the actions of Mrs Cobb.

Stewart admitted inflicting grievous bodily harm on his mother on August 13 last year and assaulting Mrs Cobb, causing her actual bodily harm.

The offences happened while Stewart was serving a suspended jail sentence for attacking a neighbour with a hammer in August 2011.

Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting, said Stewart attacked his mother initially in his flat, punching her up to 10 times.

She managed to escape but he carried on assaulting his blood-covered mother in the street. Neighbours rugby tackled Stewart and restrained him until police arrived.

Mrs Debra White, for Stewart, said his mother felt he had been let down by the mental health services.

## Positive message given to students



Rotarian Peter Hill and Marches School student Ella Pither.

TEENAGERS were told they are too modest and need to put themselves forward more after a day of mock interviews in Oswestry.

Almost 200 Year 11 pupils at the town's Marches School took part in the day, which was saw members of the Rotary Club of Oswestry and businesses from across the town visit the school to carry out the interviews and give the youngsters an idea of what to expect when they apply for a job.

Oswestry Rotary Club president Stuart Phillips said "It was a massive challenge but using our well-tested

formula and tremendous input from the school, club members supported by other business representatives conducted face-to-face interviews with just under 200 pupils."

David Lloyd, the club's vocational committee chairman, said the day was more than a careers event.

He said: "It is more of an ice-breaker enabling 15 and 16 year olds to meet a total stranger in a realistic interview situation and learn how to present themselves and to be offered help and guidance."

"We were greatly impressed by the

way the young interviewees had prepared themselves for the big day in the school calendar. Most had an idea of a career choice and the academic and other requirements."

"But gentle digging by interviewers revealed that many of the youngsters had been too shy in identifying examples of leadership, teamwork and how hobbies, out of school activities and part-time work experience would help influence a potential employer."

Mr Lloyd said the event had proved very rewarding for the 37 visiting interviewers as well as to the students.

## NEWS in brief

### Public meeting on leisure centre

A public meeting will be held next week to discuss the future of a popular leisure centre just over the Shropshire border.

Plas Madoc Leisure Centre is under threat after proposed budget cuts by Wrexham Borough Council, but residents will be able to share their ideas for saving the centre at a public meeting on March 13.

The meeting, will be held at 7pm at the Air Products Social Club in Acrefair, has been called by Clwyd South AM Ken Skates and a Cross-Community Working Group. Volunteers have already held productive talks with community activists fighting for the future of the facility.

Mr Skates said he believes could be reborn as a vibrant community hub.

### Course looks at managing money

A FREE three-week course on money management is being offered to anyone finding it difficult to make ends meets in the present economic situation.

The course is being run by PurpleFish, a community events organisation started by Hope Church, and begins on Thursday, March 20, at Milanos Coffee Shop in Oswestry.

Organiser VJ Lonsdale said: "People who attended the first such course we run last year all said how they had benefited from practical tips on managing their money. Register on 07964 726 407."

### Window display winners revealed

THE Mayor and Mayoress of Welshpool, Councillor John Meredith and his wife Joan, have selected their winners of the St David's Day Window competition.

The winner was Lamplite Antiques in Boot Street, with runners-up The Bay Tree Vintage Tea Room and Flaut It. They were handed certificates.

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## NEWS

# Politicians promote county as tourism destination

Graham Breeze

AN MP and a Welsh Assembly member have teamed up to promote Montgomeryshire as a tourist destination.

Glyn Davies MP and Russell George AM say tourism is vital to the region's economy, bringing key investment and important employment.

The politicians were speaking as they helped to promote Wales Tourism Week. They paid a visit to Gwernydd Hall Holiday Home Park at New Mills, near Newtown to see the latest investment at the site.

The holiday home park is owned and operated by Salop Leisure which has a number of caravan parks in Montgomeryshire.

"We have a natural environment and numerous tourism attractions in Montgomeryshire that act as a magnet for thousands of visitors each year," said Mr Davies.

"Many of these tourists stay in local accommodation or spend money in local businesses during their visit, providing an important income for the local economy. It's important for us to promote the area and attract more visitors to help support what is an important sector for us."

Mr Davies said he was impressed at the new facilities and investment that had taken place at Gwernydd.

Later in the day Mr George went to a meeting of local tourism providers at the uStrike bowling centre in Newtown.

The meeting was arranged as part of Wales Tourism Week which is highlighting the Welsh tourism sector.

"It's important that we understand and support the many business and individuals who work within the tourism sector in Montgomeryshire and in turn help bring investment into the area," said Mr George.

Wales's holiday and touring park industry alone provides an estimated contribution of £317m to the Welsh economy, employing 10,645 direct and indirect jobs in Wales.

## Music Festival a huge success



Players caught on camera at Oswestry Youth Music Festival

ALMOST a thousand young singers and musicians showed off their talents during the Oswestry Youth Music Festival over the weekend.

From soloists to bands and orchestras, they competed for 59 trophies during four days, delighting audiences who popped into the venues to enjoy the music. In a winners concert on Sunday the junior overall champion was drummer, Alex Dewing whilst the senior champion was 19-year-old pianist George Fradley.

Chairman, Councillor Martin Bennett, said both young people had received great accolades from the judges. "The judges said that Alex shone in being able to put across her choice of music to the audience," he said. "George, who received two 'outstandings' in his section to win through to the finals was praised not only for his competition pieces but for his role as an official accompanist to for the festival." Alex won the Town Council Junior Cup and a bursary of £100.

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## Freetickets to festival for those under 25

A festival of classical music described as "life-changing" has won funding which pays for the ticket of anybody aged eight to 25.

The Whittington International Chamber Music Festival runs between May 6 and May 9 and is devoted this year to the music of Franz Schubert, best known for his Unfinished Symphony and for his Trout Quintet. The Trout provides the motif for this year's festival publicity.

After the success of last year's Brahms Festival, the music trust CAVATINA awarded Whittington Music Festival its prestigious subsidy for young people, which has resulted in letters going out to over 40 local schools and colleges.

Entrants to this weekend's Oswestry Youth Music Festival have also been urged to take advantage of the chance to experience international musicians on their doorstep free.

Festival chairman Lawrence Mortimer says "Apart from giving local music-lovers concerts as good as anything in London or Birmingham at half the price, the festival wants to introduce the best of classical music to those who have never heard it, especially young people". Details of the free ticket offer can be found at [www.whittingtonmusicfestival.org.uk](http://www.whittingtonmusicfestival.org.uk)

# New sports league for primary schools

A new sports league has been set up in the Oswestry area to ensure primary schools can take part in regular, structured inter-school competition.

Oswestry School's PE department has created the Central Venue League aimed at boys and girls in Years 5 and 6 and with sessions taking place on Tuesday afternoons.

Currently, each school plays every third Tuesday which means that each week a different school is represented on the playing fields or on the netball courts.

In a bid to encourage maximum participation, Oswestry School provides transport to and from the pitch for all schools that require it, as well as officiating, keeping results and arranging the fixtures.

This term tag rugby and netball have been extremely popular with many local schools joining in the fun.

Those schools keen to stay involved next term will see cricket and rounders, followed by football and hockey from September.

Oswestry School Director of Sport, Darren Hollingsworth said: "I hope that links between the district schools can be strengthened and that opportunities for inter school sport will increase as a direct result."

"The more schools that sign up, the stronger the

by Iain St John

league will be. "At the moment Morda, Whittington, The Meadows, Our Lady's and St. Oswald's and Oswestry School itself are involved."

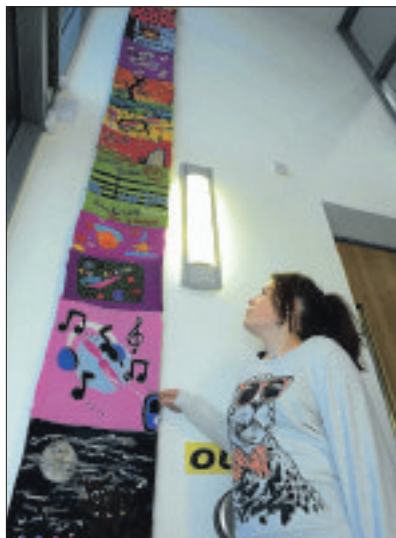
Oswestry School's primary sports co-ordinator, Jonathan Miles who works on the organisation of the league added: "The CVL really has really taken off and the children involved genuinely love the competitive element."

"The league has been designed to encourage teamwork, leadership and above all, participation in school sport."

Morda C of E Primary deputy headteacher Anna Griggs said: "The CVL has worked wonders for our pupils' confidence."

"They return with an awe-inspiring display of emotions. This really has the potential to spark huge interest across all schools in the Oswestry district."

## Hangings revealed at centre



Charlie Cameron from The Marches School

LARGE wall-hangings designed and produced through a community partnership initiative have been formally unveiled at Oswestry's youth centre by Councillor John Gareth Jones, Deputy Mayor of Oswestry.

The "Off-the-Wall" project has involved members of the Oswestry-based Project Group, working with young people who attend The Centre, at Oak Street, and Year 9 students from The Marches School.

The partnership designed and produced three textile wall-hangings for The Centre, which provides facilities and services for young people and other community groups supported by Shropshire Council Arts, the Local Joint Committee.

Kathryn Diggins of the Project Group said: "The largest of the hangings, 20 feet high, is based on the wildflower garden at The Centre, while the other two hangings reflect activities and interests that young people are able to pursue at The Centre."

## NEWS

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## FEATURE &amp; COMMENT

## BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

Tomorrow really does mark the end of an era for not just Welshpool but for the footballing community in Wales.

Memorabilia owned by Mr Tegwyn Evans, the former president of the Welsh Football Association, will go under the hammer in Welshpool Town Hall, finally bringing the curtain down on the life of a remarkable man.

If you'd cut Tegwyn Evans open you would have found he was like a stick of rock with the words football and Welshpool FC written all the way through.

A confirmed bachelor, he died aged 85, having dedicated his life to the town where he was born and raised. And more particularly he dedicated his life to the town's football club.

Quite simply Tegwyn Evans was Welshpool Town Football Club and fully earned his image as "Mr Welshpool." He served as linesman, committee man, secretary, chairman and president as the club's fortunes fluctuated throughout his lifetime.

His proudest moments came when Welshpool won the Welsh Amateur Cup and he was able to parade his club at a civic reception thrown by the local council.

But there was much more to this likeable man, who had a warm handshake and smile for everyone he met.

His enthusiasm for football took him to bigger stages where he became chairman of the newly formed Central Wales Football Association and then to the greatest honour of all, becoming president of the Welsh Football Association.

He travelled the World as an ambassador for Welsh football, never afraid to tell everyone about Welshpool and the achievements of his own club.

At his funeral the great and the good of Welsh football paid tribute. The congregation was stunned when a never-ending list of the organisations he supported was read out by his great friend David Alun Jones.

Because there was another side to Tegwyn Evans. He quietly supported the Liberal Party, sat on endless committees and was a relentless fund raiser for numerous charities.

He served on Welshpool Town Council for many years, including as mayor between 1981 and 1983 and was chairman of the town's carnival committee. In 2002, he was awarded the MBE by the Queen for his services to the town and to Welshpool Football Club.

Tomorrow brings closure on the life of one of Welshpool's most famous sons when his private possessions and collections go up for auction.

Welshpool already misses Tegwyn Evans. I personally miss his Saturday morning chats and words of wisdom, and I fear he leaves a gap that will never be filled.



John Waine from HOOOH



Councillor Keith Barrow



Councillor Roger Evans

# Councillors say yes to £80 million cuts plan

**CHRIS BURN reports from the vital meeting which confirmed budget cuts right across Shropshire**

**CUTS of £80 million have been approved by Shropshire councillors.**

The decision will see Shropshire Council's workforce halved and sweeping changes made to all services.

A full council meeting at Shirehall last Thursday gave approval to a business plan for the next three years.

It will see major cuts across departments such as adult social care and children's services and the sell-off of the council's main Bridgnorth offices, Westgate, in order to meet a multi-million pound budget shortfall.

The cuts, which will come into force from April, come on top of £87 million of savings the authority has already had to make since 2009.

Around 1,700 workers are leaving the authority, with compulsory redundancies anticipated on top of hundreds of voluntary redundancies that have already been made.

Areas facing some of the biggest cuts include adult social care, where over £24 million is to be saved, and children's services, where £12.6 million of cuts will take place.

The plans were approved by a vote of 41 to 17.

Conservative and independent councillors supported the financial strategy, while the Liberal Democrat and Labour groups opposed.

The meeting also approved proposals to freeze council tax for the fifth year in a row, although there will be increases in police and fire service elements of council tax bills in April, with both organisations planning 1.99 per cent increases.

Councillor allowances will also be



Hundreds of job losses at council headquarters

maintained at their current levels for next year.

But party leaders are to meet to discuss the issue of making changes to allowances before putting suggestions to an Independent Remuneration Panel.

Council leader Keith Barrow said the authority was trying its best to deal with the massive savings challenges it faces.

He said the redesign of departments may result in better services being provided at a lower cost.

"We are in all this together. We all want what is best for the people of Shropshire," he said.

"We are not responsible for where we are but we are dealing with it. We have a plan and we are not panicking."

But opposition councillors raised concerns about whether the savings laid out in the financial strategy were

achievable, with £40 million of the cuts front-loaded to take place next year.

Councillor Roger Evans, leader of the Liberal Democrat group, said the business plan had identified over half of next year's £40 million cuts as requiring more work to be turned into operational plans with timescales for delivery.

"It is not a good picture and not a good future for the residents of Shropshire," he said.

He was particularly concerned about the savings targets for adult social care, given overspend in this area in the current financial year.

Councillor Barrow said the authority has £12 million set aside in reserves should targets not be met.

Councillor Alan Mosley, leader of the Labour group, said the budget represented the "demise" of Shropshire

Council and added that little detail about precisely how cuts will be made has been revealed.

"This is a very sad day for Shropshire and its residents," he said.

"The council is getting rid of more than half of its staff. It is in the economic mire and doesn't know what it is going to do for the next three years."

He said the fact the business plan suggests only £16 million of next year's cuts are considered to be fully ready to be implemented represented a "massive risk" to the people of Shropshire.

Independent councillor Madge Shinton criticised the Liberal Democrat and Labour groups for not coming up with any alternative budget proposals.

But she said she was concerned about the impact of the authority's redundancy programme.

"I do worry we are losing the best expertise and those with the widest experience," she said.

"In planning, we are losing people who understand the geography in which they are working."

A housing site planned in the shadows of Oswestry's ancient hillfort will remain in the development masterplan for Shropshire.

Officials from the Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort (HOOOH) asked for the Whittington Road site to be removed from the SAMDev strategic plan guiding future housing developments around Shropshire.

The decision was a major change to the original plans for almost 200 homes in the area and followed a petition against the proposals signed by more than 8,000 people.

John Waine from HOOOH said he hoped the idea of keeping the third site in the document would also be reconsidered.

## WORKING FOR YOU



Montgomery MP Glyn Davies.

There has been lots of publicity over recent days about 'The Silk Report.'

This report is hugely important to Wales, and in some respects to Shropshire and the Border country as well. I suspect very few readers know what it's all about. This column tries to outline the basics.

Wales became a devolved nation in 1999, following a referendum of the Welsh people in 1997. A National Assembly for Wales (or Welsh Assembly) was elected but it had little real power. In particular it didn't have the power to pass new laws or to raise taxes.

In 2006 the then Labour Government gave some limited law making power to the Assembly, powers which were greatly strengthened and simplified after another referendum in 2010. Then in 2011, the UK Government set up a 'commission' to consider how to make the Welsh Government financially accountable and whether responsibility over any new policy areas should be devolved.

Paul Silk was appointed chairman of this cross-party commission and it has produced its report in two parts - Silk One, which was published in Nov 2012, and Silk Two which was published this week. The Silk Report as a whole recommends well over 100 changes.

The most important recommendation is that the Welsh Government should be responsible for levying taxes, including about 50 per cent of income tax. Even though I was opposed to setting up the Assembly in 1997, I am in favour of making the Welsh Government financially accountable through tax responsibility.

Ironically, the only party in Wales opposed to this change is Labour, which would much prefer to receive a block grant from Westminster than be accountable to Welsh taxpayers. Welsh Labour Ministers would prefer to simply blame the UK Government for not providing enough money, than take responsibility for raising money themselves.

Despite this opposition from Labour, the UK Government is going to legislate.

In summary, my response to the Silk Report is no tax responsibility means no extra powers.

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## WHAT EMPLOYMENT LAW ISSUES COULD ARISE FROM PENSION AUTO-ENROLMENT?

**Q:** I run a small business and I have recently attended a seminar on pension auto-enrolment that was organised by my accountant. One of the speakers emphasised the importance of taking legal as well as financial advice, and I am unclear as to what employment law issues could arise as a consequence of auto-enrolment.

**A:** All employers must comply with the auto-enrolment rules by their particular staging date and ensure eligible job holders, unless they are already active members of a qualifying scheme, are enrolled in an automatic enrolment scheme by that date. If you are unsure about your staging date or any of these terms you should seek immediate professional advice.

The pension clauses in your contracts of employment should accurately reflect the auto-enrolment processes you have put in place. You must provide basic information to your employees regarding pensions, either in a written statement, an employment contract or as a stand-alone document.

It would be prudent for any revised contracts of employment to include a clause permitting you to process your employees' personal data, as this will be required by your pension scheme provider and you could find yourself in breach of the Data Protection Act 1998 if you fail to obtain their prior express consent. You might also consider a deduction from wages clause in relation to the employee's pension contribution sum to be deducted from salary.

There is a myriad of other issues that employers should consider, particularly as failing to consider certain issues could result in claims. You may be able to reduce the administrative burden of auto-enrolment by contractual enrolment. It would be wise to seek proper legal advice as early as possible.

Further information relating to this question is available from Nicholas Kennan, a Solicitor Advocate with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit [www.ghplegal.co.uk](http://www.ghplegal.co.uk). For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation





## LETTERS

## Classroom unrest and term holidays

IT'S easy to sympathise with parents who want to seize the opportunity to take holidays in term time at reduced rates. I'm sure many teachers would love to do the same.

The issue is, however, always presented as a matter purely relating to an individual family and child.

What is ignored is that education in a school is a corporate and social activity, in which children are mostly engaged with in groups and the integrity of the group is vital.

It's some considerable time since I stood in the classroom, but I still feel the frustration engendered by the continuing absence of pupils taken out on holiday, so that weeks would pass without the presence of a complete class.

As a result, continuity was disrupted, homework patterns became fragmented and one spent an inordinate amount of time enabling pupils on their return to make up for lost ground.

One coped, of course, as one wanted to do one's best for every pupil, but it was an unwelcome pressure.

Furthermore, the effect on the morale of pupils who were not whisked off on holiday was sometimes palpable.

Why should they have had to suffer my attempts to convey the joys of Pride and Prejudice when, like their friends, they could have been sunning themselves in Tenerife?

Paul Pascoe  
Shrewsbury

## Floundering in the flood

THE recent floods in Somerset must show us that all our leaders should be trusted to deal with any major disaster. Just think how we were treated if there was a bigger crisis.

The PM only acted after weeks of protest. Owen Paterson and Lord Smith should step down, as they showed they were incapable of doing a responsible job.

We only hear about floods abroad, which our taxes taken by the Government relieve. I have not heard of any money yet from abroad coming our way.

Ray Jones  
Oswestry

## Bigger priorities than HS2 rail link Atos has let down sufferers in tests

THERE has been considerable discussion regarding the proposed high-speed rail link from London and dealing with excess floodwater.

It makes sense for the HS2 scheme to be shunted into a siding for the foreseeable future. The estimated cost is in the region of £50 billion and almost certain to rise before the scheme is completed in about 2025.

The upgrade of the West Coast Main Line from London (Euston) to Glasgow around 15 years ago was forecast to cost no more than £2 billion. The final figure was in the region of

£8 billion and the line was restricted to 125mph instead of the anticipated 140mph, in order to reduce the cost of the scheme.

It makes sense for the money set aside for HS2 to be used to implement a long-term plan to prevent flooding. As part of the scheme, additional reservoirs could be built to retain water in those areas susceptible to flooding and then the water could be released, as required.

It is down to a question of priorities, HS2 has to be a second class option, and something which may be

desirable but not likely to provide value for money in either the short or the long term. HS2 was never about reducing the journey time from Birmingham to London. The main aim was to increase the capacity of the line by enabling reduced journey time.

Greater capacity could be created by increasing the length of platforms (where possible), longer trains, reduced first class capacity and consequent increased standard class, and improved signalling.

Terry Davies  
Ellesmere

## Atos has let down sufferers in tests

THE decision by Atos Healthcare to get out early from its contract with the Government to provide Work Capability Assessments will be welcomed by anyone who has had the misfortune to go through one.

The decision by the Department of Work and Pensions to put all repeat assessments on hold, albeit unfortunately only temporarily, also offers a welcome respite for tens of thousands of disabled and sick people.

Action for M.E., the charity for people with myalgic encephalomyelitis, sometimes diagnosed as chronic fatigue syndrome, has published a report on a survey of more than 400 M.E. patients' experiences of the Atos assessment process.

Only 13.4 per cent said the healthcare professional from Atos understood their condition.

Of those allowed to see a copy of the Atos report on their face-to-face assessment more than 82 per cent said it was not a true reflection of the answers given. A further 92 per cent said the process caused stress and made their condition worse. Fewer than a third felt they were asked about all the symptoms that affected their ability to work.

Atos will not be missed. Is it too much to hope for that their replacement will be fit for purpose?

Sonya Chowdhury,  
Chief Executive  
Action for M.E.

## Is MP aware of speeches?

AS an ex-serviceman who was conscripted to serve the country, I am intrigued by letters from Adam Beresford Brown ("MP needs to know about this gagging...") and Reg Wilford ("...poses risks to free speech").

Please Mr/Madam Editor, ask the Member of Parliament in question, Mr Daniel Kawczynski: Have you, sir, not heard of the words of Abraham Lincoln ("they have not died in vain") and Winston Churchill ("Never was so much owed by so many to so few")?

And is this proposed legislation just an extension of the old Official Secrets Act? Mr Emyr Davies  
Wrexham

## Ewan admires his splendid spud



Young Ewan Willis hoped to gain his Cubs' gardening badge with this monster spud. Green-fingered Ewan, aged 10, of Orchard Street, Oswestry, found the 3lb 5oz potato in his garden plot.

## Shocking find is just a warning

FOLLOWING shocking findings released last week, detailing how over half of Coventry's schools still contain asbestos, The UK Asbestos Training Association (UKATA) would like to remind readers of the potential fatal consequences this material could cause.

Asbestos can be found in any building, including our very own workplaces and homes. Although not harmful if left undisturbed, it can cause issues if damaged or degraded when spores are inhaled after becoming airborne.

The toxic substance was used extensively in building materials from the 1950s right up to the early 1990s, when the medical risks of the material became more apparent.

Eddie Strong  
Chairman, UKATA

## LETTERS to the Editor

POST	FAX	E-MAIL
Readers' Letters, Oswestry Chronicle, Ketley, Telford, TF1 5HU	01952 254605	letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

## Polio-like disease is very worrying

NEWS that US doctors are warning of an emerging 'polio-like' disease in California is deeply worrying and a reminder there is still a long way to go before we beat polio itself.

The US is 'Polio Free', but like the UK, have people who suffer late effects Polio and Post Polio Syndrome (PPS) and now the threat of a Polio-like virus. The virus is targeting children and of 20 cases reported, all had been vaccinated against polio. Doctors do not believe we face an epidemic; but many could be infected without displaying symptoms (as is the case with polio) so we must remain on the alert.

The British Polio Fellowship is a call or a click away. Visit [www.britishtopolio.org.uk](http://www.britishtopolio.org.uk) or call us on 0800 018 0586.

Ted Hill  
CEO, The British Polio Fellowship

## Let's hope talks are understood

"CALL for talks on town trade".

Yep – that headline just about sums it up nicely.

More talking. The same people who allowed Poundland into Oswestry and who have agreed on the out-of-town development on the cattle market are now going to talk about the independent shopkeepers consequently going out of business.

They want lots of cheap shops like Poundland, lots of supermarkets and the town centre to be a hive of independent retailers making lots of money and paying lots of rates.

Let's hope the "talks" can be understood – its rude to speak while you attempt to have so much cake and eat it.

Tim Robbins

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## LAWLEY &amp;

NEWS  
in briefConcert raises  
day centre cash

A CONCERT has raised more than £1,600 for the Ellesmere & District Age Concern Day Centre and Ellesmere Friends of Hope House.

More than 300 people visited Ellesmere College's Big School to listen to the sounds of the Porthlywael Silver Band.

The audience was also entertained by the Ellesmere College Choral Society whose programme included a Beatles medley.

The evening finished with the band and choir joining together to perform the Hallelujah Chorus.

Anne Wignall, chairman of Age UK Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin, said: "We had a fabulous evening."

Waterloofest date  
is announced

IN a couple of years it has become one of Welshpool's most popular social events and now the date has been confirmed for this year's extravaganza.

The Waterloo Festival, fondly known as Waterloofest, will take place on May 25 and is set to be bigger and better than the previous two. Once again at the Maesdyre grounds, the event is free to enter with live music and the hilarious It's a Knockout the main entertainment. Sponsored by Speed and organised by Waterloo Rovers Football Club, the event will also raise money for Wales Air Ambulance.

# Hillfort housing bid will remain in masterplan

by Chris Burn

**A housing site planned in the shadow of Oswestry's ancient hillfort will remain in the development masterplan for Shropshire.**

Officials from the Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort (HOOOH) asked for the Whitington Road site to be removed from the SAMDev strategic plan guiding future housing developments around Shropshire.

Oswestry Town Council also supported the idea of the site being dropped. Two other sites in the shadow of the hillfort were taken out of the development plan last week. The decision was a major change to the original plans for almost 200 homes in the area.

## Joinery firm wins award

OSWESTRY-BASED joinery specialist Richard Burbidge has been crowned the national winner of the Investing in Skills category at the Engineering Employers Federation Future Manufacturing Awards.

The company had to fight off stiff competition from others across the UK to be awarded the prestigious accolade.

Implementing a 'Lean Manufacturing philosophy' was key to success, judges said. This saw the business work with staff to adopt new ways of working, enabling it to improve efficiency and provide an enhanced service to customers.

Richard Burbidge has successfully trained 105 of its employees in lean manufacturing techniques. It was this commitment to the development of its staff members that led Richard Burbidge to take first place in the national final.

The judges said the firm's entry outlined a powerful example of a wide reaching training programme that achieved targets and laid down the foundation for future growth.

It followed a petition against the proposals signed by more than 8,000 people. John Waine, from HOOOH, said he hoped the idea of keeping the third site in the document would also be reconsidered.

But Councillor Mal Price, Shropshire Council portfolio holder for housing, said he would not be making further changes. He said developers had already been in touch asking to reinstate the other two locations. Councillor Price said both the objectors and developers would have to make their views known in the next stage of public consultation. The SAMDev proposals, which will guide the building of thousands of homes and the creation of new employment land in Shropshire up until 2026, were approved unanimously by councillors yesterday. A six-week period of public consultation will now start on March 14.

Councillors raised concern the SAMDev proposals, which have been drawn up after consultation with the public over four years, were being superseded by the Government's National Planning Policy Framework.

Because Shropshire Council is deemed not to have enough development land for the next five years, planners can only reject schemes that can be proved to damage the local environment. This has resulted in a spate of applications for sites not included in the draft SAMDev document.

## Cupcakes offer taste of Wales



Margaret Massie, head baker, shows off her leek cupcakes.

A tearoom on the Shropshire border was serving up a St David's Day delight on Saturday – with cake made with the Welsh national emblem.

But instead of daffodil yellow cupcakes, visitors to the Chirk Tea Rooms were able to sample a green savoury version – flavoured with leeks.

The idea was dreamt up by Margaret Massie, head baker at the recently extended tearooms on Holyhead Road.

"I wanted to make a cupcake that would give customers a true taste of Wales" she said.

Mrs Massie concocted a mix to which she added Welsh cheddar cheese and sautéed bacon and leek she then mixed in eggs, sour cream, milk and olive oil and baked in cupcake cases.

Her topping, which looked for all the world like a sweet butter cream, was instead cream cheese, honey and a little green food colouring.

She said, news of the leek cupcakes spread quickly and had gone viral on the internet.

## Hospital's patients starring in a film

A new film for patients to familiarise and reassure them about different anaesthetic options for keyhole shoulder surgery has been launched at The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital.

With improvements in anaesthetic techniques, a growing number of operations are now performed as day case procedures at the hospital, near Oswestry.

The Keyhole Shoulder Surgery film can be viewed online at the trust's website: [www.rjah.nhs.uk/shoulder](http://www.rjah.nhs.uk/shoulder)

Members of the hospital's upper limb and anaesthetic teams worked with staff on Menzies Short Stay Surgery Unit to create the new film for patients which is now live with subtitles. The new EJAH patient information film is designed to familiarise and to reassure patients about the option of staying awake for a number of day case shoulder procedures such as rotator cuff repair, decompression, stabilisation and capsular release.

Clinicians will use this information resource by explaining that it is available to patients when they come to clinic. All patients who feature in the film were those actually having surgery on the day of filming.

Mr Richard Potter, consultant surgeon, praised the patients who appear in the film, adding: "We are grateful to them for appearing."

great show for all the family

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## Workshop on safety for older drivers

FREE motoring workshops will be staged in Mid Wales in a campaign to reduce the number of accidents involving older drivers.

Council road safety chiefs say older motorists are a "vulnerable driving group" and hope the workshop will preserve and conserve valuable driving skills.

The two-hour, informal courses have been developed and are delivered by Powys County Council's road safety unit, thanks to funding from the Welsh Government.

The workshops focus on issues such as driving licence requirements, personal safety while driving, winter driving, the dangers of drink driving and not wearing seatbelts.

Attendees will also be offered the chance to take part in a free, one hour practical drive with a driving instructor at a later date.

The confidential and practical assessment helps those taking part to develop their skills and identify any areas of weakness, or lack of confidence that may have developed over the years.

Both the workshop and practical drive are free to Powys residents over 55.

The workshops are in Welshpool on March 31, Llanfyllin April 1, Newtown April 2 and Llandrindod Wells and Llanidloes April 3. Call 07909 895346.

# Council set to approve plans for wind testing

**RETROSPECTIVE plans for the installation of wind monitoring equipment to check whether land near the Shropshire border would be suitable for windfarms are set for approval, despite objections.**

Wrexham councillors fear the use of the 10 metre high anemometer mast on land at Llechrydau Farm at Craignant will "open the floodgates" to windfarm applications around the picturesque Ceiriog Valley.

By Iain StJohn

But Wrexham Council planners say the approval of the application does not imply any subsequent applications for a windfarm will also get the go-ahead.

The planners will recommend councillors give the go-ahead to the application when it comes before their planning committee meeting.

The application has been lodged by Wrexham Wind Energy Ltd and is centred on land about four kilometres from Glyn Ceiriog.

The firm is looking for retrospective permission to install the anemometer for a temporary period of up to two years.

A planner's report says the applicant's consultants are carrying out studies to determine the suitability of the site for wind energy and the environmental impact of any proposed development.

The planners say the

structure has actually been in place since 2010.

The report says Glyntraian Community Council, which covers the area, had raised queries over when the temporary two-year period would begin.

And the adjoining Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog Community Council had raised further concerns.

The report says the community council said: "Approving this scheme will open the 'flood gates' to further and larger applications.

"The Ceiriog Valley is a beautiful area which attracts many tourists.

"Approving this could result in a proliferation of such applications and if approved would be a scar in the local landscape."

Representations have also been received by the council from neighbours with concerns.

## Billy completes second challenge



Billy with his supporters after completing the swim.

EIGHTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD Billy Austin has completed his second challenge of the year to raise funds for a charity close to his heart.

Billy's grandfather, Frank Austin, suffers from motor neurone disease and seeing his plight made the young boy determined to raise funds for the charity that researches the disease.

In January Billy, from Ellesmere trekked 10 miles along the Mont-

gomery Canal. Then last week he completed 64 lengths, a mile, swim at Oswestry leisure centre. The feat took him an hour and a half.

Billy's mother, Sallyann Morris, said: "When he had completed it he said 'can I do some more'. He had such grit and determination."

"He is so passionate about raising funds for motor neurone disease."

"The staff at Oswestry leisure Cen-

tre were marvellous letting us hold Billy's event there. The support he had in and out of the pool was fantastic, we raised £150 yesterday bringing his total to £650 so far this year."

"Billy would like to thank everyone that has sponsored him." Billy has pledged to hold a fundraising event each month of the year. People can support the fundraising via, [www.justgiving.com/Sallyann-Morris](http://www.justgiving.com/Sallyann-Morris)

## NEWS in brief

### Children's hospice is set for a boost

SHROPSHIRE'S children's hospice is set for a funding boost thanks to staff at Co-operative food stores in the county.

This year staff at many stores throughout Shropshire from Oswestry in the north down to Ludlow in the south have all chosen to support Hope House Children's Hospice, based at Morda near Oswestry.

A focus of their fundraising this year will be a charity ball taking place on August 30 at The Dining Rooms, Oswestry. Tickets are £40 to include live music and a magician. Tickets from Sam Teare on (01691) 679592 or Matt Lee at [m2aty@btinternet.com](mailto:m2aty@btinternet.com)

### Chamber choir in the spotlight

THE Quindici Chamber Choir will be featured in a concert at the Welshpool Methodist Church, High Street on Saturday.

The event starts at 7.30pm and is in aid of proposed improvement building work at Cefn Methodist Chapel, Trevern.

### Pre-book

Tickets are £5 or £3 for schoolchildren (which includes light refreshments).

They can be purchased from Cefn Chapel members or at the door on Saturday evening though pre-booking is advisable to ensure a good seat.

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- ◆ E-cigarettes are much safer Since you're "burning" tobacco, not to mention using an open flame to light it, traditional cigarettes by default pose serious fire hazards
- ◆ Health While we can't make the claim that e-cigarettes are healthier, Many of our customers have reported feeling better physically after switching to electronic smoking. Over 4000 chemicals are contained in a normal cigarette plus E-Cigarettes contain no tar.
- ◆ Social As you can see, Electric Cigarettes carry many benefits over traditional smoking. Many have discovered how they can still enjoy smoking and get the nicotine they crave without using methods that are increasingly seen as intrusive.

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## WELSHPOOL NEWS

NEWS  
in briefArrest follows  
window damage

A 26-year-old man has been arrested after an incident last Saturday night when an assault took place and a shop window, car and a door were damaged.

The man, from Newtown, was arrested in connection with the offences in Berriew Street at around 2am and bailed.

A charity shop window was smashed during the incident and has been boarded up while investigations into the offence continue.

Police are now appealing for witnesses to come forward and share any information which could help their investigation.

Officers can be contacted on 101 at Welshpool CID.

Coffee date for  
church funds

A Coffee Morning will be held tomorrow (Friday) in the Corn Exchange of Welshpool Town Hall with proceeds going towards the upkeep of Trelystan Church.

There will be a variety of stalls and a raffle between 9am and noon.

A fundraising evening for the church with local singer Alan Herbert will take place at Marton Village Hall on Friday, March 21 from 8pm.

Tickets at £10 include a supper and are available from church members, Welshpool Jewellers or Laura call on (01938) 561261.

# An hourly Cambrian line service on track for 2015

by Andrew Mor-

**AN hourly train service between Mid Wales and Shropshire could be launched as early as next year, an MP claimed this week.**

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies said he met Arriva Trains Wales bosses in Westminster to push for a quicker implementation of an hourly service between Shrewsbury and Aberystwyth.

Campaigners have been fighting for the service for 20 years and Mr Davies said he believes the move will have a massive impact on tourism and business in Mid Wales.

He said: "I have been discussing the need for an hourly service on the Cambrian line for

decades with various organisations. Over recent years, greater customer demand on the line has made the need for a more frequent service a more pressing priority.

"Investment in infrastructure works needed to accommodate an hourly service has been completed and the Welsh Government is now contemplating changes to Arriva Trains Wales' franchise which would allow the service to be implemented.

"An hourly service between Aberystwyth and Birmingham would be a major boost to the people of Mid Wales and I am optimistic that it will be a reality by 2015."

Late last year, Robert Robinson, Welshpool town clerk and secretary of the Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee met with Welsh Assembly transport minister Edwina Hart, who said she wanted the service to begin as soon as possible.

More than 6,500 people responded to a consultation organised by Mr Robinson and supported by Welshpool Town Council into the plans. The Welsh Assembly had expected a response of 400, but Welshpool town councillors boarded trains and asked commuters to fill out the surveys as they travelled, which proved a huge success.

The trains would pass from Aberystwyth to Shrewsbury, stopping at both Newtown and Welshpool en route.

## Give town a Spring clean

WELSHPOOL is planning a Spring Clean Week and your help is needed.

In co-ordination with Keep Wales Tidy, Welshpool Town Council is inviting the entire community to support a special day when the town will be cleaned from top to bottom.

The event takes place on March 23 and participants are simply asked to turn up at 10am.

"The intention is to pick up litter, remove old signs, paint benches, clean signs, in fact anything that enhances the town," said a town council spokesperson.

"We are inviting people to meet at the Tourist Information Centre at 10am and expect the clean up to last until about 3pm."

Companies, groups and organisations are invited to take part in clean ups throughout the week with specific areas targeted to be cleaned up. Each person participating will receive a certificate signed by the mayor.

For further information email [town.clerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@welshpooltowncouncil.gov.uk)

## Football memorabilia on sale



Mr Tegwyn Evans

MEMORABILIA owned by Mr Tegwyn Evans, the former president of the Welsh Football Association, will go under the hammer tomorrow (Friday).

Mr Evans, who died last year aged 85, was a life vice president of the Welsh FA, president and former chairman and secretary of Welshpool Town FC, chairman of the Central Wales FA, president of both the Montgomeryshire Amateur Football League and the Montgomeryshire Referee's Association.

Mr Evans was passionate about football, serving as an FAW council member since 1975 and as president from 2003 to 2006. He served on Welshpool Town Council for many years, including a spell as mayor between 1981 and 1983 and was chairman of the town's carnival committee.

In 2002, he was awarded the MBE by the Queen for his services to the town and to Welshpool Football Club.

Auctioneers Harry Ray & CO will conduct the sale at Welshpool Town Hall at 10:30am on Friday.

## Praise as residents are kept on the move

AN initiative which started off as a nail cutting service for older people has developed into a scheme to ensure hundreds of Welshpool area residents stay mobile, independent and pain free, a leading campaigner has said.

The Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Sarah Rochira, has praised the work of the volunteers and staff involved in the Age Cymru Powys-organised service.

The monthly service runs alongside the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation, which is run by district nurses who treat chronic leg ulcers.

A nail cutting pilot scheme started in 2011 and it has now grown massively, with monthly Simply Nails clinics in towns such as Welshpool, Newtown, Builth Well, Presteigne and Knighton, looking after 500 clients.

The commissioner said: "The impact of these two services cannot be underestimated."

"Had this innovative model of care and clinical support not been there, many older people would have to travel to hospital or to GP surgeries and imagine how difficult it is travelling considerable distances when you are frail, have ulcerated legs or can't drive."

Age Cymru Powys's Jill Lloyd-Phillips started the nail cutting service.

Advertisement

## Bodytech set to get Oswestry in a Spin

**Bodytech Health Clubs, Oswestry are ready to launch their brand new Spin Timetable on Monday 10th March.**

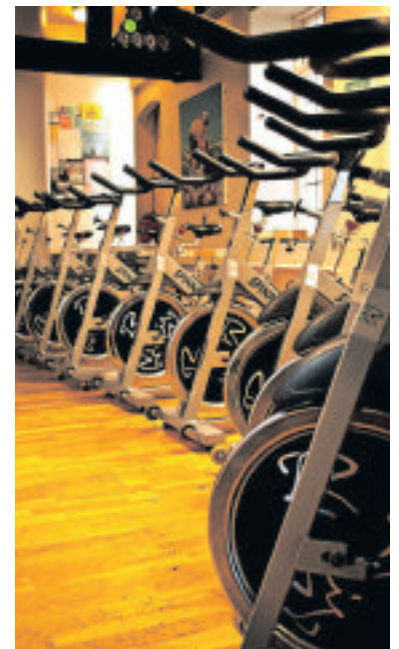
Spinning - an indoor cycling class - is a cardio (aerobic) workout set to music and led by a certified instructor. This fun and exciting class lasts 45 minutes, with the instructor taking participants on a virtual journey of sprints, hill climbs and various other exercises that you wouldn't normally associate with a regular bike.

Jeff Anderson, Bodytech Managing director said "As part of our new timetable we wanted to open Spin up to a wider audience and are planning to achieve this by introducing Beginners classes.

Spin has a bit of a reputation for being for those who are ultra fit, but it really is for everyone regardless of weight, age, or fitness level. You control everything from your speed and resistance to your intensity level, so it can be as easy or as challenging as you want it to be. Like many things in life though, you will get out of it what you put in" (On average participants lose around 800 calories per 45 minute class).

Spin classes at Bodytech are run daily from Monday to Saturday and are open to non-members on a pay as you go basis at just £5 a class.

For more details of class time or to book a free taster session call the club on 01691 657400.



## Get 1 free spin bike class

Session must be pre-booked by calling 01691 657400. Please complete pass & hand in at reception prior to your session.

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## WELSHPOOL NEWS

## Top team cooks up winning recipe



The victorious Mid Wales team of chefs who won the national Battle of the Dragon competition

TWO Welshpool men were part of the team of chefs from Mid Wales who helped put the region on the culinary map by winning the national Battle of the Dragon competition.

Stephen Griffiths, from Welshpool, who works for Cambrian Training Company and Jacob Samson, of The Raven Inn, were in the team led by experienced Welsh National Culinary Team member Nick Davies, of the Lion Hotel,

Llandinam, which lifted the Dragon Trophy.

Joining them in the Mid Wales team were former National Chef of Wales champion Neil Roberts, of the Waggon and Horses, Newtown, Kelly Thomas, from Lampeter, and apprentice chef Rhianon Morris, 17, from the Lion Hotel, Llandinam. Team manager was Gareth Johns, co-owner of the Wynnstay Hotel, Machynlleth.

## Barman's Transatlantic life

A FORMER Welshpool barman is now serving customers on a grander scale on behalf of the UK.

Chris Roach, a former barman at The Angel and Molto nightclub, moved to the US after graduating from Chester University in 2010, and he is playing a key role in developing commercial ties between UK-based companies and potential American counterparts.

Chris, 27, who works at the British

by Graham Breeze

Consulate-General, said: "I first came to live and work in the states of Ohio and Texas before finding my way to Chicago in 2013 with my wife, who grew up in Ohio."

Now his professional remit is to build business relations across the Atlantic and he is particularly keen to see more Welsh companies take advantage of his position within the UK Trade & Investment arm.

"Over the past few months I was in-

involved in a trade mission to Colorado which brought 16 UK companies over to the States looking for partnership and investment deals," he said. "This mission gained quite a bit of attention from both the British and American media and was featured in a number of national publications."

"UK Trade & Investment are able to support small and medium sized businesses in the UK when expanding their business overseas. We have worked with many Welsh companies and continue to encourage more to explore opportunities outside the UK."

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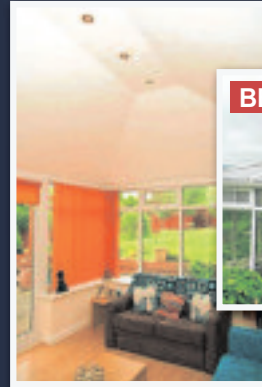


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Do you contract tradespeople, contractors  
and consultants to 'do a job for you'?

What are your responsibilities for  
your contractors?

What are your responsibilities as  
a contractor?

All businesses, large and small need to use the services of contractors (specialist tradespeople) from time to time, such as an electrician or fire consultant. However, businesses are not always fully aware of the legal implications and liability that may ensue when something involving a contractor goes wrong.

This event is aimed at all businesses and will provide an opportunity to hear about up-to-date health and safety legislation, as well as to explore key topics in relation to employing and managing contractors.

The workshop's topics will include:

- a small presentation on competence, including Safe Contractor, CHAS and Constructionline. What are they about? Do we need them?; and
- open workshops to ask questions on health and safety, environmental and quality with one of our Chartered Consultants.

This event offers the opportunity to:

- increase your understanding of key issues to consider when using tradespeople in your business;
- understand the questions you need to ask tradespeople at the contract tendering stage;
- understand the preparations you need to make, to ensure contractors' work goes smoothly;
  - find out what to do if something goes wrong; and
  - improve your understanding of your legal responsibilities.

## Complimentary Workshop on Contractors

12 March 2014  
6.30pm

Office Suite 3 | Market Gate | Salop Road  
Oswestry | Shropshire | SY11 2NR

Refreshments will be provided

Book your place on 01691 688723





## NEWS

NEWS  
in briefOsfest reveals  
two new acts

MORE acts have been announced for Oswestry's music festival, Osfest.

This year the two-day festival will be held from May 24 at the Park Hall Showground. Osfest organisers have already announced two headlining acts, boyband Union J and last year's X Factor finalist Luke Friend.

This week they revealed they had added more names to the line-up including one of the favourites from last year.

Spokeswoman Carly Woodward said: "By massive demand we have the return of Wiley on Saturday night and on Sunday we have the Grammy Award Winner Foxes."

An invitation to  
enjoy Big Lunch

ORGANISERS of the UK's largest annual get-together for neighbours are inviting people from Shropshire and Mid Wales to join the thousands of communities taking part in The Big Lunch on June 1.

The Big Lunch is funded by the Big Lottery Fund and partnered by Halifax, ASDA and StreetClub by B&Q.

Now in its sixth year, the idea from the Eden Project aims to provide neighbours with an opportunity to get to know one another better by hosting or taking part in an event. Details from [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com)

# Orthopaedic is taking on more nursing staff

**Sue Austin**

**THE Orthopaedic Hospital near Oswestry is taking on more nurses.**

The hospital's Foundation Trust Board heard that the spinal injuries unit had been one of the first departments to have benefitted from the decision.

It follows nationwide health reports which have recommended an increase in nurse staffing levels in hospitals across Britain.

Director of Nursing at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Jane Downey, told the trust board that the recruitment would be across the board.

"The Keogh report is encouraging hospitals to increase numbers of registered nurses.

We are now putting this in place and, as health care assistants have left we are replacing them with registered nurses."

Earlier Rebecca Warren, ward sister at the spinal centre, from the spinal injuries unit said changes had already taken place in the unit with number of registered nurses during the day rising to four and at night to 3.5. We are also recruiting ahead of vacancies, which is fantastic news. The ward is also bringing in 12 hour shifts on the unit which will bring greater continuity."

She outlined changes at the centre, from dealing with infection control to tidying up the unit in general.

"Our infection control rates are extremely low, as well as the occurrence of falls and pressure sores. We have a wonderful staff of cleaners who keep the centre spotless."

A culture of compassion and care, which the hospital was known for, was being actively promoted, she said.

"We want to be known for having that extra special touch, which makes us stand out," she said.

Trust chairman, Mr Russell Hardy, said: "The Spinal Injuries Unit has our most complex patients, both physically and emotionally."

"Our staff are helping people, both the patients and their families, through the most unbelievable trauma."

Councillor Wood said West Mercia Police currently has £49.3 million in reserves, a figure he said Shropshire Council "could only dream of."

## Police tax is under attack

PLANS to increase the police element of council tax in Shropshire by almost two per cent from April have come under fire from a member of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel.

Councillor Michael Wood said he was concerned at the police council tax precept increasing by 1.99 per cent at a time when the force has millions in reserves.

He said he did not believe the increase could be justified at a time when cash-strapped Shropshire Council had managed to freeze its council tax level for the fifth year in a row despite its ongoing financial difficulties.

Police and crime panels are able to scrutinise budgets set by police and crime commissioners, but have no power to force alterations.

Councillor Wood said West Mercia Police currently has £49.3 million in reserves, a figure he said Shropshire Council "could only dream of."

## Eisteddfod is great opportunity



Glyn Davies MP (right), Russell George AM, Delma Thomas, Beryl Vaughan (seated left) and shadow minister for culture and Welsh language, Suzy Davies AM

CULTURAL, social and economic opportunities will be opened up in Montgomeryshire when the National Eisteddfod comes to the area next year, the area's Assembly Member has said.

Russell George highlighted the benefits of the Welsh cultural extravaganza during a coffee morning with fellow politicians and eisteddfod organisers.

The national event, which has an international standing, will be staged near Meifod between August 1-8 next year on the site of the last National Eisteddfod in the area in 2003.

Mr George welcomed the chairman of the local Eisteddfod committee, Beryl Vaughan and Delma Thomas of the learners' committee to the coffee morning in Newtown to discuss the event.

Mr George said: "This is an opportunity to put Montgomeryshire on the national and international map."

"Let's get involved and highlight what a great place Montgomeryshire is to visit."

## Cyclist is airlifted after road accident

A cyclist was airlifted to hospital after she was thrown 10 feet into the air after a collision with a car.

The 46-year-old woman was cycling along the A495 between Ellesmere and Oswestry on a steep stretch of road known as The Brow. West Midlands Ambulance Service was called to the A495, near The Brow Golf Club in Ellesmere, Shropshire, at 10.50am on Sunday.

A spokeswoman said: "Crews were told the cyclist, a 46-year-old woman, had been thrown three metres into the air following a collision with a car. 'The woman, who had initially been knocked unconscious, was being cared for by a first aider when crews arrived. The cyclist had suffered a cut to her head and a dislocated thumb which were dealt with by paramedics."

"Due to the mechanism of the crash and suspicion of a more serious head injury, she was immobilised as a precaution before being airlifted to University Hospital North Staffordshire in Stoke-on-Trent for further assessment and treatment. The car driver was assessed but did not require hospital treatment." Police closed the road for a short stretch on the Brow, between the turning for Perth and Hardwick. Diversions were set up along the lanes.

## Spring Lambing Day

**WALFORD CAMPUS, BASCHURCH**  
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## NEWS

## GP appointment delays

ONE in 10 people across Shropshire cannot get an appointment with their GP, new figures have revealed.

And of those that could get an appointment, more than 16 per cent of patients had to wait week or more before seeing their doctor or practice nurse.

Nearly half of those who did not get an appointment said it was because they could not get one on the day they wanted.

The NHS England GP Patient Survey, which covers the periods from January to

March and from July to September last year, saw more than 8,000 people surveyed across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin.

Figures showed that seven per cent in Shropshire were unable to get an appointment.

But most people who took part in the survey were happy with their overall experience, with the majority saying they would recommend their GP to someone moving into the area.

# Students go on a visit to building site

by Iain St John

**CONSTRUCTION** students have been given a taste of life on a real building site with a visit to Chirk's new medical centre.

The 15 students were among the first to be given a sneak preview of the £2.4 million medical centre in Colliery Road, which is nearing completion.

The new eco-friendly medical centre will replace the Chirk Surgery's current premises in Castle Road and will feature a number of sophisticated "green" features, including photo-voltaic solar panels and an advanced drainage system.

The two-storey steel-framed building is the first purpose-built surgery to be built in

North Wales by healthcare building specialists Matrix Medical and it will include a minor operations facility and a pharmacy as well as being the base for the Chirk surgery.

Tom Anwyl from the construction company, Anwyl, said: "This is a very prestigious development and features some extremely advanced techniques.

"I'm sure the students will have found it interesting, particularly those who may not be used to seeing how the theory all gets put into practice.

"We're very pleased to work with Coleg Cambria as Anwyls have a longstanding commitment to apprenticeships and a long relationship with further education colleges in North Wales and with the Construction Industry Training Board," he continued.

X-head

"We view apprentices as the lifeblood of the building industry and we take particular pride in developing them to become the site managers and contracts managers of the future - 20 per cent of our workforce, over 30 people, actually began with us as apprentices."

College construction lecturer David Marshall Jones said: "We have brought a good cross section of students here, there are bricklayers and joiners and also civil engineering students.

"It's a great opportunity for them to see a site in progress, particularly for those who are not with a construction firm."

## Baking up a winner



Louise Williams with her winning cake

HOSPITALITY and catering students based at Scholars Restaurant on the Oswestry Campus of Walford and North Shropshire College took part in a Great British Bake Off-style competition.

The students had the opportunity to display their knowledge of baking skills, techniques and show-off their creative side. The competitors had three hours to prepare and bake a "showstopper" cake; the first prize was a £15 voucher for Upstairs-Downstairs cookware shop in Oswestry.

The winning cake was baked by Louise Williams, 17, from Oswestry. Louise's cake was scored highly due to taste, originality, complexity and presentation.

To join a hospitality and catering course at WNSC, apply on-line at [www.wnsc.ac.uk](http://www.wnsc.ac.uk) or contact the admissions department on (01691) 688080.

## Three will face a trial

THREE people have denied perverting the course of justice.

Matthew Burns, 22, of Bron y Buckley, Welshpool, and Amanda Chambers, 44, and Richard Chambers, 47, both of Clos Glyndwr, Newtown, appeared at Mold Crown Court.

All three are charged with forming a letter to Mold Crown Court claiming a false job offer to get bail conditions varied in relation to a curfew last October.

They pleaded not guilty and a trial was set for July.

## Village couple hold a double celebration

A COUPLE had double reason to celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary when it coincided with the wedding of their granddaughter.

A full weekend of celebrations were held to mark Eluned and Tom Roberts's 60th anniversary and the wedding of their granddaughter Sarah Roberts.

Mrs Roberts, of Maes-yr-eglwys in Llansantffraid on the Shropshire/Mid Wales border, said: "Our son Keith, Sarah's dad, told us about a year ago she wanted to have her wedding date close to our celebration date so it was a really special time. The wedding took place in Bradford-on-Avon in Wiltshire and we went down there for it."

Mr and Mrs Roberts were married at St John's Church in Pontrobert on January 30, 1954 after meeting at a dance in Llanfair Caereinion in 1952. They have two sons Bryan and Keith, daughter Sheila, grandsons Steven and Mark and granddaughters Sarah and Claire.



# STACKS OF CHOICE

## £10 EYE TEST

Valid for one test booked on or before 31 March 2014 at discounted price of only £10. Present voucher at time of test. Cannot be exchanged for cash, used with other vouchers or redeemed by customers already entitled to a free NHS eye test. One per person, at named Specsavers stores only. CODE 2646



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**NATIONAL BED MONTH**

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Trading for almost 50 years as a family business Hafren remain experts in the field featuring all leading brands at the best possible prices.

The company proudly offers Wales'

## Advertisement feature

largest Bed Studio and has been selected as a Sealy Deeper Sleep Studio, where you can try out hundreds of beds and mattresses in comfort.

Staff at Hafren Furnishers understand the importance of selecting the right bed with a fully trained team ready to help. They offer all famous brand names including Tempur, Hypnos, Sealy, Silent Night, Harrison, Vi Spring and Rest Assured.

To celebrate National Bed Month

in March there are additional promotional offers and savings in the Bed Studio. There is also a vast selection of sofas and chairs both contemporary and traditional, dining room tables and chairs, recliner furniture, including the largest Stressless comfort studio in Wales, home, office and conservatory furniture.

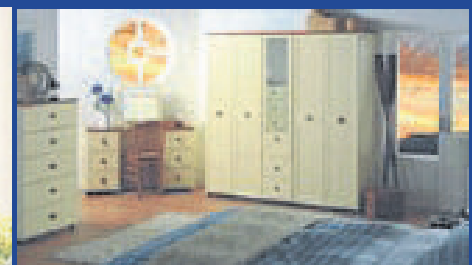
Concessions of Carpet Right and Hammonds Fitted Bedroom furniture are also located in store. There's a free delivery service throughout England and Wales. Hafren Furnishers is open until 8pm every Thursday.

# Welshpool's Largest Furniture Store **NATIONAL BED MONTH**

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To celebrate 'National Bed Month' they have many fantastic promotions throughout the store

### Advertisement feature

catering for all budgets.

With more than 25 years experience in the bedding and flooring industry Owner Nicky Gilligan and her fully trained team certainly offer specialist service when it comes to choosing your new bed, offering the very latest in sleep technology from the UK's leading manufacturers such as Salus, Breasley and Highgrove.

Their new range of latex beds and mattresses are now on display pro-

viding additional support and health benefits.

Quality and peace of mind is also top of the list at Liberty's as they proudly supply products approved by the National Bed Federation which ensures manufacturers follow a strict code of practice in the production and standard of materials used in their beds. This gives reassurance that your new bed or mattress is not just comfortable and supportive but safe.

The company is situated on Pool Road, Newtown and open six days a week. Call 01686 622500.

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## NEWS

NEWS  
in briefCold-caller scam  
warning issued

IMPOSTERS are posing as Citizens Advice Bureau officials to cold-call people in Shropshire pretending to offer help with accident claims.

The CAB says it had been contacted by several members of the public who had received calls.

Hundreds of calls are believed to have been made to homes across Shropshire.

The CAB says it believes fraudsters are using the good reputation of the organisation to get money from the public.

Jackie Jeffrey, chief executive of Citizens Advice Shropshire, described the calls as a "despicable scam" trading on public trust in the service.

Shop's thanks for  
charity support

STAFF at a Shropshire fashion shop raised more than £6,000 for Cancer Research UK.

M&Co branches are helping the charity and staff at the Oswestry branch held a series of events including raffles, hampers, and fashion shows.

The shop also provided donation stations for people to donate quality items to help stock Cancer Research UK shops.

Manager Betty Richards said she was grateful for the support of customers which had seen £6,057 raised. She said: "I would like to thank all our customers for their support."

# Recruitment boost is on cards at town's BT base

BT is expecting to create more than 60 apprenticeship and graduate jobs in the Midlands, including at its base at Oswestry, as part of a nationwide recruitment drive.

The recruitment is part of wider plans by the telecoms giant to create more than 1,000 posts across the UK and up to 1,500 vocational training and work experience placements for unemployed youngsters.

by Iain StJohn

In the West Midlands, the jobs are likely to be created at bases in Oswestry, Walsall and Coventry.

As part of the plans, the company says it casting its net across the UK for around 300 top science, technology and business graduates who want to build their careers in the IT and telecom sectors.

Around 730 apprenticeships will also be offered to UK school and college leavers in the areas of engineering, software design, IT support, finance and logistics, with some expected to be based in Oswestry and Walsall.

The company has a major base at Whittington House at Park Hall on the outskirts of Oswestry.

The network management centre at the site is responsible for the smooth running of phone lines and communications networks 24-hours a day, especially during TV telethons.

As part of its wider UK plans, BT also announced

its commitment to the employer-led initiative "Movement to Work", aimed at tackling youth unemployment, by pledging to provide up to 1,500 vocational training and work experience placements for out of work youngsters over the next 18 months.

Gravin Patterson, chief executive of BT, said: "This is a tough time in the job market, with almost a million young people across the UK struggling to find work."

"Every company needs to play its part in ensuring that Britain's future workforce isn't impaired by long-term unemployment. BT has an exciting future ahead of it, investing in the UK's high speed broadband infrastructure, and advances in television and digital media."

Mike Cook, BT's West Midlands regional director, said: "This latest recruitment is great news for our region."

## Flipping great way to help charity



Back, Hollie Mytton, Awel Jones and Becky Holyhead. Front Lucy Richter and Chloe Jones.

A group of teenagers came up with a flipping great idea to help charity on Shrove Tuesday.

Students from the Oswestry campus of Walford and North Shropshire sold pancakes to raise money for the Joshua's Boxes charity.

The charity supports people who have lost children through medical reasons.

The organisation provides tangible ways to remember their child and one of its initiatives is the idea of a memory box filled with things that help parents to make these initial memories and have something to keep.

The students from the childcare, health and social care departments sold pancakes with a variety of toppings and a drink all for a £1, with all proceeds going towards the charity.

Those involved are health and social care level three second year students.

Head of department Vicki Boy said: "It's great that the students marked this much-loved occasion, and best of all they are donating all proceeds to a very special and deserving charity."

## Councillor fumes at school's funding

A councillor says he is "disappointed and angry" that plans for a town's primary school playground to be extended will not go ahead in the next financial year.

Councillor Peter Lewis says the improvements to Llanfyllin Primary School are required on health and safety grounds because the playground is so small.

He said it should be enlarged to accommodate all the children as they play.

Councillor Lewis told town councillors there had been funding available in Powys County Council's schools improvement programme.

But he said the funding had subsequently been used to modernise schools in other parts of the county.

He said: "I am disappointed and angry that this year's school improvement programme was approved and Llanfyllin Primary School playground, which is way too small, did not come on the list for 2014/15."

"It is down for 2015/16 but that is not certain."

After the meeting Councillor Lewis said the school had missed out because of the matrix points system Powys County Council use to priorities which work should be done. He said: "This is because a new matrix system has been introduced, and I believe not enough points was given towards health and safety."

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## Advertisement feature

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The Conservatory is The Lord Hill Hotel's main restaurant. It is especially suitable for private funeral gatherings, lunches or evening dinners. Details on (01743) 232601.



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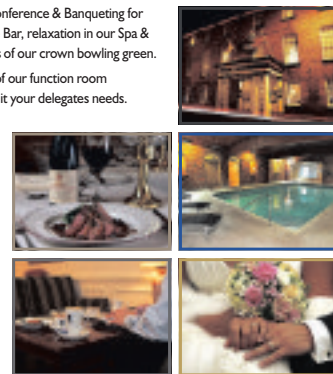
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## NEWS

# Rotarians hand over tree money

By Iain St John

**THOUSANDS** of pounds have been handed out to two good causes thanks to the endeavours of a Rotary club.

The money was raised through the Rotary Club of Oswestry's Tree of Light project.

The festive fundraiser encourages people to write a message to a loved one on the group's huge Christmas tree, which last year was installed at the town's Sainsbury's supermarket, and make a donation to the organisation. The funds raised are then given out to local good causes.

Rotarians visited the Midlands Centre for Spinal Injuries at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital to hand out £1,000 from the festive fundraiser and then attended Hope House Hospice at Morda, near Oswestry, to hand out a further £1,000.

Twenty Rotarians visited Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital as guests of Professor Wagih El Masry to hand over the money.

The money went to The Orthopaedic Institute Limited, the research charity based at the hospital.

Accepting the cheque, Dr Brian Ashton, chairman of the institute, described the work of his organisation.

He said: "This money will be used to buy equipment for use in our research projects into spinal cord injuries and other orthopaedic conditions."

"We are very grateful to the Rotary Club of Oswestry and the generosity of the local community for this donation, which will help us continue vital work in these fields."

Professor El Masry explained how the spinal injuries centre was pioneering a holistic, multi-disciplinary approach to the treatment and management of such injuries.

He said patients such as Paul Rhodes, who acts as a peer support worker for the Spinal Injuries Association, play an important part in helping new patients face life-changing circumstances.



Rotarian Mike Jones, Hope House fundraiser Lynsey Kilvert and Rotarian Stuart Phillips

Rotarian Stuart Phillips, president of the Rotary Club of Oswestry, said: "It has been a truly humbling experience to see and hear at first hand the wonderful work of this world-class facility, which the club is proud and privileged to support."

Rotarians visited Hope House Hospice to hand over funding to staff.

Lynsey Kilvert, area fundraiser at Hope House, said: "It is recognised that the last few years have been difficult for the local community given the financial climate and yet still they continue to support Hope House Children's Hospices."

"Support from the community is vital. Without this, it would not be possible to provide the care that the children, young people and their families so desperately need."

"Oswestry Rotary have been supporting Hope House for many years and in 2013 doubled the amount they raised in 2012 to £1,000. We cannot thank them enough for their continued support."

Tree of Light organiser Mike Jones said: "The club was delighted with the result of the 2013 event and feels privileged to channel the generosity of the community into a cause as deserving as Hope House."



From the left, Paul Rhodes, Rotarians Stuart Phillips, and Mike Jones, Dr Brian Ashton and Professor Wagih El Masry

"We know they will find a really good use for this money."

The Rotary Club recently welcomed its newest member, Howard Ellett, a native of Walsley.

He is a local wealth management consultant, who offers specialist advice in a wide range of areas including investment planning, retirement planning and inheritance tax planning.

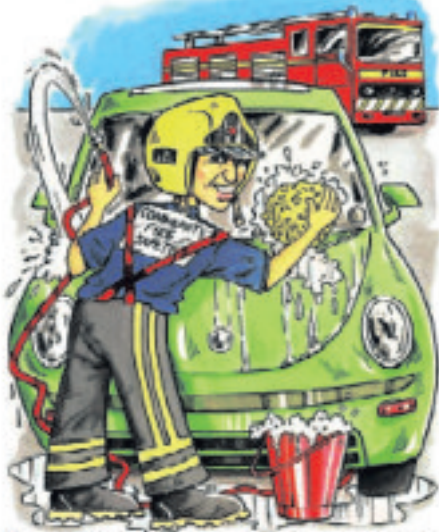
After spells working for HM Customs and Excise, Vauxhall Motors and British Nuclear Fuels, Howard switched to financial services in 1987, and he moved to the Oswestry area in 1992.

A keen walker and traveller, he is married to Debbie and looks after clients primarily in Shropshire, North and Mid-Wales and Cheshire.

Responding to a welcome to the club from both its president, Stuart Phillips, and visiting Assistant District Governor Beryl Cotton, Howard said: "I am delighted to become a Rotarian and to join the Rotary Club of Oswestry which has been a most friendly and welcoming organisation in the run-up to my membership. I am greatly looking forward to being part of its many activities"

## CHARITY CAR WASH!

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# Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



## High quality home in a picturesque village

An exceptionally well appointed detached bungalow in a village conservation area is for sale with Richmond Harvey.

Candia in Great Ness, between Oswestry and Shrewsbury, includes three double bedrooms and has been tastefully improved to create flexible, well planned accommodation. With oil-fired central heating and double glazing, the accommodation comprises a

reception hall with parquet floor, living room with fireplace, a dining room, attractive fitted kitchen with integrated appliances, breakfast room, and a utility/wc.

There is a spacious master bedroom with built-in wardrobe and en-suite shower room, two further double bedrooms and an attractive family bathroom.

To the front is a gated driveway providing

extensive parking and a neatly kept garden with lawn, flowerbeds and a pond.

A trellised arch leads through to the attractive rear garden which includes a lawn, summerhouse, greenhouse and large decked patio with pleasant views of the church.

The agents are seeking offers around £294,500. Contact Richmond Harvey on 01691 654222 to arrange a viewing.



## Smartly presented detached cottage full of period charm

A charming detached cottage in the popular village of Penybontfawr is on the market with Town & Country.

Rhoslan has been well maintained and offers attractively presented accommodation full of character. It has two reception rooms, kitchen, two bedrooms, one with walk-in wardrobe and access to loft space, and a spacious bathroom.

The property boasts many original features including beams and open fireplaces, and is priced at £86,000.

Call Town & Country on 01691679631 or visit [www.townandcountryoswestry.com](http://www.townandcountryoswestry.com) for more details or to arrange a viewing.



## Two-bedroom bungalow set in a popular residential area

A well-maintained two-bedroom detached bungalow in a popular residential area close to the centre of Oswestry is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson, who are seeking offers in the region of £139,995.

Number 6 Roundwood Close comprises a hallway, lounge/dining room, kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom.

There is ample off-road parking, a single garage and low maintenance gardens to front and rear. The property also benefits from gas-fired central heating and upvc double glazing throughout.

Contact selling agents Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit the website [www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk](http://www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk) to find out more.

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- Front and Rear Gardens. EPC E.
- Popular Location

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- Rural Location
- Three Acres
- Four Bedrooms

£369,950



- Detached
- Landscaped Gardens
- Oil Central Heating

## FRONCYSYLTE



- Detached Bungalow
- Set in Approx 3 Acres
- Various Outbuildings

- Views Towards Llangollen
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Great Scope for Development

£350,000

## TREFONEN



- Executive Detached House
- Four Bedrooms (2 Ensuite)
- Three Reception Rooms. EPC C
- Sought After Location

£319,950

## PENYBONTFAWR



- Large Semi Detached
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms. EPC E
- Modern Kitchen & Bathroom

£173,500

## GLYN CEIRIOG



- Detached Cottage
- Four Bedrooms
- Approx. 9.5 Acres
- Oil Central Heating. EPC E.

£385,000

## SELATTYN, OSWESTRY



- Set in Approx 1.1 acres
- Idyllic Rural Location
- Three Bedrooms. EPC C
- Full of Character

£389,950

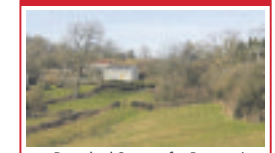
## TREGEIRIOG



- Three Bed Country Cottage
- Well Maintained
- Dating Back To 1857
- Landscaped Gardens. EPC F

£319,000

## TREFLACH



- Detached Cottage for Renovation
- Elevated Position
- Three Bedrooms
- 14 Acres of Land

Guide price £300,000





# TOWN & COUNTRY

PROPERTY AUCTIONS

**We are looking for properties in**  
**Shropshire, Powys/Mid Wales and all Villages bordering Oswestry**  
**To be entered into our next auction on**  
**24th April 2014**

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for FREE!**

(subject to Buyers Premium  
being paid)



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## 01691 679 631



## Advertisement

# WOODHEAD ESTATES MAKES THE SHORTLIST FOR THIS YEAR'S ESTAS

Woodhead Estates have been shortlisted as a top 10 Estate/Letting agent in the Midlands Region of the biggest estate and letting agent awards in the UK, known throughout the industry as The ESTAS.

The Independent Oswestry agency has been recognised for its outstanding customer service to its clients by the largest and longest running award scheme in the UK residential property industry.

The ESTAS determines the best estate and letting agents in the country through research carried out amongst customers who are asked a series of questions about the service they have received from their agent. This year's competition saw 32,000 surveys completed by agents customers.

Agents have been shortlisted in 18 regions around the country. The regional and national winners will be announced by Phil Spencer, the TV Property expert at the 11th annual ESTAS ceremony at the Hilton Park Lane 9th May. Phil Spencer said "I think these awards help us all to focus on customer service for the greater good of our own businesses as well as the wider industry. We must all drive



standards higher, raising the bar in terms of the quality of advice we offer and the level of customer care we deliver."

Simon Brown, who owns The ESTAS says "Its client feedback which determines who is shortlisted and ultimately who wins that makes The ESTAS so valuable for agencies. It takes a lot of commitment to enter The ESTAS and to make it to the shortlist is a great achievement in itself."

Alex Chesterman, Founder & CEO of headline sponsor Zoopla Property Group said "This is our fifth year of sponsoring The ESTAS and

we are delighted to be once again supporting this key industry event. The ability to collect and act on customer feedback is essential to the success of any business and rewarding those who provide the best service in the industry, as these awards do, is perfectly aligned with our business. Congratulations to all those shortlisted this year."

Owner, Kate Howell (nee Woodhead) said "We are delighted for the second year running to have made the top 10 out of the whole Midlands region for The ESTAS awards. We are the only Oswestry agent to be nominated for this high profile and industry recognised Award.

"It's a tremendous testament to the hard work and professionalism of all the team, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our valued customers past, present and future for their continued support."



**PRINCIPALITY  
BUILDING SOCIETY  
LOCAL AGENCY**

## We're here to help Oswestry get moving

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- First Time Buyers
- Moving home
- Buy To Let

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With a range of mortgages, whether it's your first home, you're moving up the property ladder, or buying to let, speaking to a Principality Mortgage Consultant could really make it happen.



You can find us at Woodhead Estates,  
12a Leg Street, Oswestry



Call us on 01691 680044  
(Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm and Saturday 9am – 12pm)

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Woodhead Estates are an introducer appointed representative for Principality Building Society. Principality Building Society is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority, reference number 155998. Many Buy To Let mortgages will not be regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Principality Building Society, Principality Buildings, Queen Street, Cardiff, CF10 1UA. www.principality.co.uk

OMPAD 12/13-1



## Oswestry's Recommended Agent for the Guild of Professional Estate Agents



# WOODHEAD ESTATES

www.woodheadstates.com

T: 01691 680044 E: sales@woodheadstates.com



**Pen-y-garnedd** Penybancyn  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £449,950



**Oswestry Min-y-dwr Llanbyddel**  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
OPEN PLAN LIVING AREA  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £379,950



**NEW PRICE**  
**Oswestry** 20 Hampton Road  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £304,950



**NEW**  
**Llanymynech** Arddol Llandysilio  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
12 BAY STABLE BLOCK  
APPROXIMATELY 3 ACRES  
EPC RATING D  
£294,950



**Oswestry** 25 Grosvenor Road  
3 BED DET HOUSE  
DOUBLE GARAGE  
CONSERVATORY  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £254,950



**Oswestry** The Matrons House Welsh Walls  
3 BED DETACHED HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £249,950



**Selattyn Oswestry** Fir Bank Gyrn Road  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
SPLIT LEVEL PROPERTY  
OIL CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £249,950



**Welshpool** Hen Blas Salop Road  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
3 RECEPTION ROOMS  
PERIOD FEATURES  
EPC RATING F  
OIRO £329,955



**Oswestry** 40 Park Avenue  
SOLD IN 24 HOURS  
3 BED TERRACE HOUSE  
3 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING TBC  
£189,950



**Oswestry** 4 Yew Tree Close  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
DOUBLE GLAZING  
EPC RATING D  
£169,950



**Arddol Llanymynech** 20 Liwyr Perthi  
3 BED DET HOUSE  
KITCHEN DINER  
MASTER BEDROOM EN SUITE  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £164,950



**Llanymynech** Shaftesbury Four Crosses  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
OIL CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £225,000



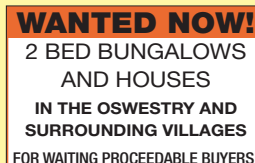
**Weston Rhyn Oswestry** Weston View Wern  
4 BED DETACHED HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
2 BATHROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £229,950



**Oswestry** 2 Lakeholme Gardens  
3 BED TOWN HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING  
EPC RATING C  
£159,500



**WANTED NOW!**  
4 BED DETACHED HOUSES  
IN THE OSWESTRY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES  
FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!  
**UP TO £250,000**  
**FREE VALUATION**  
**NO OBLIGATION**



**WANTED NOW!**  
2 BED BUNGALOWS AND HOUSES  
IN THE OSWESTRY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES  
FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!  
**UP TO £130,000**  
**FREE VALUATION**  
**NO OBLIGATION**



**Oswestry** 12 Hawthorn Close  
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
CONSERVATORY  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
£114,950



**Oswestry** 1 Old Mill Avenue  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
CONSERVATORY  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £224,950



**Oswestry** Cromer House Morda Road  
4/5 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
DECORATION REQUIRED  
MOTIVATED SELLER  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £199,950



**Oswestry** 10 Elgar Close  
2 BED SEMI-DET BUNGALOW  
NO CHAIN  
KITCHEN/DINER  
EPC RATING D  
£109,950



**Oswestry** 86 Willow Street  
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £102,950



**Oswestry** 43 Abraham Court  
SOLD IN 24 HOURS  
1 BED APARTMENT  
EPC RATING B  
COMMUNAL GARDEN/LIVING ROOM  
£89,950



**Oswestry** 9 Minshall Place  
2 BED MAISONETTE  
MOTIVATED SELLER  
DOUBLE GLAZED  
EPC RATING D  
£87,500



**Oswestry** 51 Henley Drive  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
UTILITY  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £179,950



**Llanymynech** Larchfield North Road  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
SUPERB VIEWS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £169,950



**Oswestry** 62 Whitefriars  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £157,950



**Morda Oswestry** 2 Sweeney Drive  
3 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
EN SUITE MASTER BEDROOM  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £154,950



**Oswestry** 3 Henry Jones Road  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
CONSERVATORY  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £154,950



**Oswestry** 7 Plas Newydd Close  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
CONSERVATORY  
GARAGE  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £149,950



**Oswestry** 15 Cae Melin Avenue  
3 BED TERRACE HOUSE  
LOUNGE/DINER  
TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £147,950



**Llanfyllin** 14 Bron Y Gaer  
4 BED TERRACE HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £139,950



**Oswestry** 43 Aston Way  
2 BED DET BUNGALOW  
NO CHAIN  
CONSERVATORY  
EPC RATING D  
ASKING PRICE £139,950



**Oswestry** 42 Upper Brook Street  
1 BED TERRACE HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING  
EPC RATING TBC  
OIRO £89,950



**LANDLORDS WANTED**  
FOR HOUSES IN OSWESTRY AND SURROUNDING AREAS FOR WAITING APPLICANTS  
**PLEASE CALL**  
**01691 680 044**  
**FOR MORE DETAILS**

LETTINGS	
19 SCHOOL ROAD, WEST FELTON.	
2 BED TERRACE HOUSE	£450 PCM
23 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY.	
2 BED TERRACE HOUSE	£450 PCM
15 MEWS COTTAGES, OSWESTRY.	
2 BED TERRACE HOUSE	£475 PCM
3 SYCAMORE CLOSE, OSWESTRY.	
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE	£500 PCM
19 HERITAGE WAY, LLANMYNECH.	
4 BED SEMI DET HOUSE	£525 PCM
MEADOW VIEW, LLANMYNECH.	
3 BED DET BUNGALOW	£650 PCM



## Head and Shoulders Above The Rest

12 Leg Street • Oswestry • Shropshire • SY11 2NL

ASSOCIATED LONDON OFFICE

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

REGIONAL COVERAGE

NATIONAL PRESENCE

### Letting Fees

Credit Check  
(per person aged 18 or over)  
**£50.00**  
Tenancy  
Administration fee  
**£195.00**



Welshpool office:  
28 BROAD STREET  
WELSHPOOL  
SY21 7RW

**01938 554818**

M

M

P

Oswestry office:  
16 LEG STREET  
OSWESTRY  
SY11 2NN

**01691 679595**



**MORRIS MARSHALL & POOLE**  
www.morrismarshall.co.uk



### Westways, Treflach



- Detached dormer bungalow
- Lounge/diner, fitted kitchen and utility
- Two bedrooms, attic room, four piece bathroom
- Oil-fired central heating and double glazing
- Attached garage. Views over open countryside
- EPC Rating = 59 (D)

**£249,950**

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

### 35 Walford Road, Oswestry



- Detached Two Bedroom Bungalow
- Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Shower Room
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Car Port, Garage, Enc Rear Garden
- Convenient for town bus route
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 55

**£125,000**

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



- 97 Old Chirk Road, Gobowen £149,995**
- Detached two bedroom bungalow
  - Lounge, fitted kitchen, conservatory
  - Gas-fired central heating, double glazing
  - Det garage, Good sized enclosed gardens
  - Well served village with railway station
  - EPC rating = 53 (E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



- Penylan Mill Farmhouse, Coed-y-Go £259,950**
- Character property requiring refurbishment
  - 3 double bedrooms
  - 3 receptions & living kitchen
  - On-site parking and gardens
  - Rural outlook over adjoining fields
  - Offering potential to provide a family home
  - Energy Efficiency Rating = 16 (G)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



- 6 Western Drive, Oswestry £127,500**
- Three bedroom semi detached house
  - Lounge, sun room, fitted kitchen and utility
  - Gas-fired central heating and double glazing
  - Off road parking at the rear
  - Easy reach of town centre
  - Well maintained accommodation throughout
  - Energy Efficiency Rating = TBC

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



- 30 Bridge Street, Llanfyllin £99,950**
- Two bedroom mid terrace town house
  - Sitting room and fitted kitchen/breakfast
  - G/floor bathroom, electric heating, d/glazing
  - Enclosed gravelled rear garden area
  - Close to town amenities. EPC rating = 44 (E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

### Marrington Lodge, Chirbury



- Detached Country Property and garden
- 2 Receptions with fireplaces, Kitchen
- 3 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Att Garage
- Separate W.C, Built-in Store
- Requires refurbishment and refitting
- Detached Paddock of 0.64 Acre
- Energy efficiency rating = 30

(£200,000 without the land)

**£215,000**

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



- Edderton Farmhouse, Forden Welshpool £200,000**
- Spacious Attached Former Farmhouse
  - Sitting Room, Kitchen/Diner, Utility/Freezer Rm
  - 5/6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Oil Fired Heating
  - Front paved area, Rear Garden Area
  - Expansive views across Severn Valley from rear
  - In need of some modern refitting
  - Energy efficiency rating = 28

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



- The Marches, 3 Cae Coed Churchstoke £135,000**
- Detached 2 Bedroom Village Bungalow
  - Sitting Room, Kitchen/Diner, Bathroom
  - Attached Single Garage, Lawn to front & rear
  - Secondary & double glazing, Oil Heating
  - Cul-de-sac location
  - Energy efficiency rating = 61

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



- Ar Y Craig, Stone Lane Welshpool £299,950**
- Unique Split level Detached 3 Bed Property
  - Lounge, Conservatory, Kitchen, Bathroom
  - Ground Floor Sitting Room, Utility, Shower
  - Integral Garage, Car Port
  - Part electric & solid fuel heating, D/Glazed
  - Terraced decking lawn and seating area
  - Energy efficiency rating = 33

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



- 1 Parc Offa, Four Crosses £249,950**
- Modern Det House
  - In private development
  - 2 Receptions, Kitchen/Breakfast
  - 4 Bedrooms, En-suite & Bathroom
  - Oil Fired Heating, Double glazed
  - Spacious plot mainly laid to lawn
  - Det Double Garage
  - EPC rating= 62

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

## COLLECTIVE PROPERTY AUCTION

**Thursday 20th March - 2PM**

**at Welshpool Livestock Market, Buttington Cross, Welshpool, SY21 8SR**

- LOT 1:** 2 Garages, Dyffryn Ent Park, Newtown - .....Guide Price £10,000
- LOT 2:** 2 Apartments over Barclays Bank, Llanidloes - .....Guide Price £150,000
- LOT 3:** 26 Salop Rd, Welshpool - 5 Bed Semi - ..... Guide Price £160,000 - £175,000
- LOT 4:** Ger y Mor, Borth - 3 Bed Mid Terrace - ..... Guide Price £125,000 - £135,000
- LOT 5:** Marwen, Llansantffraid - 2 Bed Mid Terr - ..... Guide Price £65,000 - £75,000
- LOT 6:** (Salem Chapel) ..... **WITHDRAWN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**
- LOT 7:** Bryn Cottage, Maesbury - 3 Bed Det Bung - .....Guide Price £145,000
- LOT 8:** 3 Clatter Cottages, Clatter - 3 Bed Mid Terr - .....Guide Price £45,000
- LOT 9:** Tegfan, Abercegir, Nr Machynlleth - 3 Bed Mid Terr Cott - ..... Guide Price £75,000 - £80,000
- LOT 10:** Montrose, Gungrog Rd, Welshpool - 2 Bed Det Cott - ..... Guide Price £110,000 - £120,000
- LOT 11:** Brooklyn, Hordley, Newtown - 4 Bed Det Bung - .....Guide Price £115,000
- LOT 12:** Caerleon, Brookfield Rd, Welshpool - 2 Bed House - ..... Guide Price £100,000 - £120,000

**Auction Catalogues Now Available - www.morrismarshall.co.uk**

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LLANIDLOES • 01686 412567  
MACHYNLLETH • 01654 702472

NEWTOWN • 01686 626160  
OSWESTRY • 01691 679595  
SHREWSBURY • 01743 247755

TYWYN • 01654 710388  
WELSHPOOL • 01938 554818  
ABERDYFI • WINDOW DISPLAY



## RICHMOND HARVEY

Tanygarth Road, Pontfadog



●●PRICED TO SELL●● - Situated within the picturesque Ceiriog Valley, Richmond Harvey Properties are delighted to release this tastefully improved three bedroom character detached single storey cottage style residence which enjoys a delightful edge of village location with fine surrounding countryside views and low maintenance gardens. Viewing fully recommended by the owners agents. EPC RATING D

Offers Over £155,000

Great Ness, Shrewsbury



Enjoying a delightful semi-rural village location overlooking the village Church, Richmond Harvey Properties are favoured with instructions to market this most exceptionally well appointed and deceptively spacious three double bedroom detached bungalow which has been tastefully improved by the current owners to provide flexible well planned accommodation. Situated in a conservation area this property needs to be viewed to fully appreciate the excellent accommodation on offer. EPC Rating D.

Offers in Region of £294,500



S.S.T.C

### Pool Quay, Welshpool

Tastefully refurbished character two bedroom cottage with full planning permission for a two storey extension set in approximately 1.5 acres or thereabouts. MUST BE SEEN. EPC RATING F

Offers in Region of £249,500



### Jasmine Close, Oswestry

3 bed detached: Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Living Room with feature multi fuel stove, Contemporary Kitchen/Dining Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired CH, PVC DG, Driveway, Garage, Gardens. EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £179,995



### Dove Court, Baschurch

●●80% SHARED OWNERSHIP●●2 bedroom ground floor flat: Entrance Porch, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Inner Hall, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Fired CH, Garden, Parking Space. NO CHAIN. EPC RATING C

Offers in Region of £104,000



### Oak Drive, Oswestry

3 bedroom mature semi detached family house to the market which briefly comprises: Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Re-Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Side Porch, First Floor Landing, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gardens to Front, Side and Rear, Driveway and Garage. No Chain. EPC RATING C

Offers in Region of £167,000



### St Martins Road, Gobowen

3 bed semi detached comprising: Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Lounge, Dining Room, Walk In Pantry, Kitchen, First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Driveway, Garage and Attractive Gardens. EPC RATING E

Offers in Region of £148,995

### Milars Field, Morda

3 bedroom semi detached property comprising: Entrance Porch, Hallway, Re-Fitted Kitchen, First Floor, Master Bedroom Ensuite, 2 Further Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired CH, DG, Gardens and Parking. Remaining NHBC Guarantee. EPC RATING C

Offers in Region of £152,500



### Maesbury Marsh, Oswestry

●●PRICED TO SELL●● renovated 3 bedroom character attached barn conversion: Kitchen, Living Room, Bedroom 1 and 2, Inner Hall, Bedroom 3, Bathroom, Cottage Style Double Glazing, Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-street parking, Garage with WC, EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £195,000

### Derwen Green, Four Crosses

3 bedroom link detached bungalow. The property comprises: Entrance Porch, Hallway, Re-Fitted Kitchen/Dining Room, Three Double Bedrooms, Re-Fitted Bathroom, Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-street parking, Garage with WC, EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £204,000



### Old Mopsis Way, Morda

Modern 3 bedroom detached: Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living Room, Dining Room, Newly Fitted Breakfast Kitchen, Master Bed Ensuite, 2 Further Bedrooms, Bathroom, Driveway, Garage, Gardens. EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £184,950



### Regent Court, Oswestry

2 bedroom (Master Ensuite) second floor retirement apartment benefitting from having an on site house manager, lift, communal areas and resident parking with Bespoke Fitted Kitchen and Attractive Bathroom. Further service charges will apply. EPC RATING C

Offers in Region of £124,950



### Castle Street, Oswestry

2 bedroom terraced house: Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Ground Floor Bathroom, Landing, Two Bedrooms, Gas Fired CH, Rear Yard. NO CHAIN AND OFFERS INVITED. EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £89,950

### Balmoral Cres, Oswestry

4/5 bedroom detached: Cloakroom, Bedroom 5, Lounge/Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility, Master Ensuite, 3 Further Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired CH, Majority PVC DG, Driveway, Gardens. MUST BE SEEN. EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £189,950



### Llanarmon Rd, Glyn Ceiriog

A most deceptively spacious 3 double bedroom semi detached character cottage enjoying a pleasant edge of village location with generous elevated rear garden which enjoys most delightful roof top views over the village and hillside beyond. VIEWING FULLY RECOMMENDED. EPC RATING F

Offers in Region of £157,950



### Campbell Close, Oswestry

3 bed detached comprising: Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Dining Room, Conservatory, First Floor, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired CH, Majority PVC DG, Driveway and Further Gravel Area, gardens. EPC RATING E

Offers in Region of £169,950

### Berwyn Avenue, Chirk Bank

Enjoying a generous plot which lends itself to extension subject to the necessary consents, 3 bedroom detached bungalow which benefits from a recently re-fitted kitchen and bathroom, gas fired central heating, double glazing, driveway and garage. NO CHAIN. EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £189,950



### Regents Court, Oswestry

●●FOR SALE WITH NO ONWARD CHAIN●● First floor retirement apartment conveniently placed for local town centre amenities with an on site house manager, lift, communal areas and resident parking. Further service charges will apply. Viewing fully recommended. EPC RATING C

Offers in Region of £89,950

### Boot Street, Whittington

Character semi detached cottage comprising: Entrance Hall, Lounge with feature fireplace, Attractive Kitchen/Dining Room, First Floor Landing, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Car Port, Parking and Garden. Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING E

Offers in Region of £162,950





## Period farmhouse with land and outbuildings

With many period features, Esgair, at Llanbrynmair, is an attractive five-bedroom farmhouse which was once part of a much larger farm. Today it stands in about 14.85 acres and offers flexible accommodation as well as a range of outbuildings converted to provide office space. There are also some industrial buildings that benefit from B1 planning consent. Outbuildings include stables, a pole barn, workshop and garaging as well as an annexe which was originally the granary barn, making this a versatile property.

The agents are seeking offers around £575,000. Call the Welshpool office of Halls on 01938 555552 or visit [www.hallsestateagents.co.uk](http://www.hallsestateagents.co.uk) to find out more.

Halls



## Charming former stable set in large gardens

A picturesque four-bed converted stable full of character is on the market at an asking price of £299,950. Ystablau stands at the end of a long private drive on the edge of the village of Carno, near Newtown. It includes a hall with oak floor, large lounge with beamed ceiling and woodburner, a conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room with appliances, and a dining room.

Upstairs are four bedrooms, one en-suite, and a bathroom. The house is set in about a quarter of an acre of lawned gardens which include a vegetable garden, a stream and views to the Powys Hills in the distance. Call Morris Marshall and Poole on 01686 626160 or visit [www.morrismarshall.co.uk](http://www.morrismarshall.co.uk) for details.

M M P

J. J. DELL & Co.

J. J. DELL & Co.

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### PANT



Individually designed highly appointed three bed detached house  
● Oil Fired CH, D/G  
● Lounge & Study  
● Breakfast Kitchen & Utility  
● Sun Room  
● Bathroom & En-Suite  
● Garage & Car Parking  
● Good Sized Garden  
● Plot  
● EPC Band C  
JJD782

£420,000

### LLANFECHAIN



● Kitchen  
● Drawing Room  
● Lounge & Sun Room  
● Library & Study  
● Cloakroom  
● 5 Bedrooms/2 Baths  
● Double Garaging  
● Possibility to split accommodation  
● EPC Band - C  
JJD833

£400,000

### OSWESTRY



● Modern Detached Bungalow  
● GFCH & D/G  
● Kitchen  
● Lounge  
● Two Bedrooms  
● Garage And Parking  
● Front And Rear Gardens  
● Cul De Sac  
● Location  
● EPC Band D  
JJD814

£138,950

### PARK HALL, NR. OSWESTRY



● GFCH & D/G  
● Dining Kitchen  
● Sitting Room  
● Sun Room  
● Two Bedrooms  
● Large Attractive Garden  
● Garage & Parking  
● Occupying Quiet Position  
● EPC Band - D  
JJD820

£139,500

### LLANRHAEDR YM MOCHNANT



● Traditional Village Cottage  
● Oil Fired CH  
● Sitting Room  
● Dining Kitchen  
● Conservatory  
● 2 Bedrooms  
● Rear Garden  
● Adjoining Garage/Outbuilding with Loft  
● EPC Band - F  
JJD834

£139,950

### LLANFYLLIN



● GFCH UPVC D/G  
● Cloakroom  
● Two Reception  
● Laundry Room  
● Breakfast Kitchen  
● Conservatory  
● Three Double Bedrooms  
● En-Suite  
● Terraced Garden  
● EPC Band - E  
JJD819

£339,500

### OSWESTRY



Detached three bedroomed family house in sought after residential area  
● GFCH, D/G  
● Cloakroom  
● Kitchen & Utility  
● Dining Room  
● Sitting Room & Lounge  
● Dressing Room  
● Large Garage  
● Attractive Gardens  
● EPC Band D  
JJD778

£349,950

### RHOSYGADFA, NR. GOBOWEN



Most attractive award winning barn conversion  
● 3 Reception Rooms  
● 4 Beds & 2 Bathrooms  
● 5 Acres  
● Separate Cottage  
● Useful Outbuilding  
● Splendid views of countryside  
● And Shropshire Union Canal  
● EPC Band C  
JJD716

GUIDE £575,000

### OSWESTRY



● UPVC D/G & GFCH  
● Cloakroom  
● 2 Reception Rooms  
● Kitchen & Utility  
● 5 Beds 2 En-suite  
● 2 Bathrooms  
● Detached Double Garage  
● Prominent Corner Plot  
● Reasonable Walking Distance of Town  
● Cul de sac road  
● EPC Band C  
JJD828

£325,000

### GOBOWEN



Close Care Residential Bungalow on purpose-built complex  
● C/H, D/G  
● Lounge/Dining Area  
● UPVC Conservatory  
● Large Bathroom  
● Two Bedrooms  
● Rear Enclosed Paved Yard  
● Garage  
● Semi-Rural Location  
● EPC Band D  
JJD811

£109,500

### OSWESTRY - TO LET. £380 PCM



● One Bed First Floor Flat  
● GFCH  
● Sitting Room  
● Dining Kitchen  
● Parking Available  
● EPC Band - D  
● Deposit - £360.00  
● Agreement Cost - £150.00  
JJD009

### LLANYMYNECH



● Fully Equipped Sales Office  
● 100 Ft. Wide Concrete Forecourt  
● Toilet  
● Fronting Onto Busy A483  
● Recently Used For Car Sales  
● Lends Itself To Other Uses  
JJD832

£55,000

OSWESTRY (01691) 653437 - (01691) 680212



# Halls



OC 3869

Oakhurst Road, Oswestry  
Price: £145,000

**NEW**

This attractive bay fronted Victorian family home is situated in a most sought after area of Oswestry overlooking Brogynytn Park. This property boasts original Victorian features and architecture.

- Living Room, Dining Room
- Boot Area/Rear Vestibule
- Kitchen, Two Double Beds
- Large Bathroom, Gardens
- Gas Central Heating
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



OC3870

Applewood Heights, West Felton  
Price: £110,000

**NEW**

A two bedroom property situated in the popular village location of West Felton with good commuter links to both Shrewsbury and Oswestry. An ideal investment purchase or first time buy.

- Lounge, Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Gardens
- Two Parking Spaces
- Double Glazing
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Penyllan Barn, Coed Y Go  
Price: £435,000

**NEW**

A delightful barn conversion and family home which has kept the integrity of the original building with original features.

- Four Bedrooms
- Ensuite & Dressing Room
- Family Dining Kitchen
- Two Reception Rooms
- Approx 2 Acres Of Land
- Detached Barn & Parking
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



OC3868

Llanforda Mead, Oswestry  
Price: £249,950

**NEW**

This spacious three bedroom bungalow is situated in a most sought after cul de sac location with landscaped East facing rear garden. This property offers accommodation which is warmed by gas fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing.

- Reception Hall, Cloakroom,
- Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen,
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom,
- Parking, Gardens
- Summerhouse, Garden Shed
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



OC3857

Kingsbury, Schhol Lane, St Martins  
Price: £295,950

**NEW**

Situated in a quiet cul de sac location this four bedroom family home needs to be viewed to be appreciated. The property sits centrally within a good size plot with mature gardens, double garage and ample parking.

- Kitchen Breakfast Room, Utility
- Lounge, Dining Room, Study
- Master Bedroom Suite
- Three Further Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Storage, Parking
- Double Garage, Mature Gardens
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



OC3856

Vine Cottages, Weston Rhyn  
Price: £135,000

**NEW**

This two double bedroom end of terrace cottage is tucked away within this popular village, only a short walk from the bus stop and village amenities. UPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating.

- Two Reception Rooms
- Master Bedroom & Ensuite
- Bedroom Two, Shower Room
- Two Parking, Garden
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



OC3866

Cambrian Mews, Oswestry  
Price: £147,500

**NEW**

This three storey THREE bedroom end of terrace town house is situated within a short walk from Oswestry Town Centre offering immaculate accommodation fitted to a high specification including good quality 'Quick Step' laminate flooring throughout the ground floor.

- R'Hall, WC, Lounge, Kitchen
- Bedroom Two, Family Bathroom
- Bedroom Three, Master Suite
- Enclosed Rear Garden, Parking
- Ideal Investment
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



OC3862

Wootton Cottages, Queenshead  
Price: £285,000

**NEW**

A unique opportunity to purchase a COTTAGE with ANNEXE and LARGE WORKSHOP. Situated in a most convenient semi rural within a short drive from the A5 this property must be viewed to appreciate its full potential.

- Dining Room, Living Room
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom, Gardens
- Parking, Turning Forecourt
- Large 31ft long Workshop
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



OC3750

Fitzgwarine Drive, Whittington  
Price: £154,950

**NEW**

This three bedroom semi detached property is situated in a popular residential area within walking distance to Whittington Castle and the playing fields.

- Three Bed Semi
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking & Garage
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



OC3817

Lower Chirk Bank, Chirk Bank  
Price: £199,950

Located a stones throw from the Llangollen Canal this detached family home offers spacious accommodation. Situated in a most sought after semi rural location on the English / Welsh Border.

- 3/4 Bedrooms
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Semi Rural Location
- Viewing Recommended
- Current EPC Rating F

Contact Oswestry



OC3871

Gibraltar Lane, Treflach  
Price: £330,000

A well presented five bedroom detached family home situated in a most popular semi rural location. This property could provide a family home with a one bedroom annex or a substantial family residence. (Lower Landing Accommodation could provide self contained accommodation (subject to permissions).

- Five Bedrooms
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



OC3580

Mount Rise, Oswestry  
Price: £379,950

**NEW**

A BRAND NEW detached executive family home situated in a sought after and popular residential area of Oswestry town. Within a few minutes from Oswestry Town Centre and a short drive from lovely countryside walks.

- NHBC Guarantee
- Views over Oswestry Town
- Three Reception Rooms
- Double Garage
- Immaculate Accommodation

Contact Oswestry



OC3719

Parc Llwyfen, Llanymynech  
Price: £349,950

**NEW**

An immaculate South facing detached family home in excellent decorative order throughout with views to the Breidden Hills in the distance.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Parking
- LPG Gas CH & DG
- NHBC Guarantee
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



OC3702

Kingfisher Way, Morda  
Price: £299,950

**NEW**

An immaculate executive style family home overlooking parkland situated in a quiet residential area. A must see property which offers spacious accommodation.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Parking
- Gardens & Summer House
- NHBC Guarantee
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



OC3865

Morda Road, Oswestry  
Price: Offers over £575,000

**NEW**

This distinctive substantial home sits centrally within its half acre plot overlooking the Cricket Ground within a sought after established residential area. Designed and built to a superb standard this six bedroom family home boasts a high quality specification in each room. The contemporary ideas and luxury finish complements the property inside and out. EPC Rating C.

Contact Oswestry



OC3585

Waen Cottage, Llansantffraid  
Price: £395,000

**NEW**

A charming detached country cottage situated in approximately 1.280 acres of splendid gardens and grounds offering spacious characterful accommodation located in a pleasant rural location.

- 4 Bedroom (2 With En-Suites)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Paddock & Gardens
- Approx. 1.280 Acres
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



OC3694

Peach Tree House, Monfa, Llansilin  
Price: £159,999

**NEW**

Located centrally within this most popular village opposite the Church with lovely countryside walks on the door step yet within commutable distance to the local towns.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Countryside Walks
- Oil Central Heating
- Character Features
- Current EPC Rating F

Contact Oswestry



OC3863

Deytheur, Llansantffraid  
Price: £465,000

**NEW**

Court View has been sympathetically renovated to an exceptional standard, taking into consideration and making the most of the commanding views and retaining many original features of an original and circa 1839 built barn.

- Drawing Room, Reading Room,
- 4Study, Dining Room, Lounge,
- Kitchen, Master Suite,
- Three further Bedrooms,
- Large Garage and Annex
- Well Maintained Gardens
- Current EPC Rating G

Contact Oswestry

Head Office 01743 450700  
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Kidderminster 01562 820880

Shrewsbury Auction Centre 01743 462620  
Ellesmere 01691 622602  
Welshpool 01938 555552

Shrewsbury 01743 236444  
Oswestry 01691 670320  
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2 Bedroom Barn Flat. EPC : F



**Guide Price £485,000**

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01938 554499 (Mobile 07710 522558)

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#### MOELFRE, LLANSILIN

1.33 Acres (0.54 Ha) of medium age conifer woodland available in 2 convenient sized lots (Lot 1 - 1.23 acres, Lot 2 - 0.10 acres) Good roadside access, quiet picturesque rural location.

For Sale by Private Treaty

**Guide Price - £15,000** (offers invited)

All enquiries to Tudor Watkins at our Welshpool Office

### ARABLE / MAIZE LAND REQUIRED TO RENT (MARCH / APRIL 2014 START)

10 - 20 Acres

For a retained Client

**Between Welshpool and Oswestry**

If you have any land to rent out (client does not want to claim SFP) then please contact Tudor Watkins at the Welshpool Office

### English & Welsh SFP Entitlements Available

Lots can be split according to your requirements. We are open to offers. If you have spare Entitlements contact Clare Jerman on 01938 554499 for a no obligation valuation or to find out what else we have available.

Region	Amount	€ Value	£ Value (£0.83605)	Asking Price per ha
WELSH	37.72 ha	€297.00	£248.31	£400.00
WELSH	2.24 ha	€238.83	£199.67	£325.00
WELSH	75.38 ha	€124.87	£104.40	£125.00
WELSH	1.2 ha	€180.00	£150.49	£200.00 for the whole
English Non SDA	93.48 ha	€323.97	£270.86	£250.00
English SDA	4.29 ha	€260.29	£217.62	£260.00

### BASIC PAYMENT SCHEME IS COMING

You have until 2<sup>nd</sup> April to act to preserve and enhance the value of your future claims up until 2019. Contact us for advice how to maximise your position

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**Shrewsbury**  
**01743 791336**

**Oswestry**  
**01691 655334**



# FINE & COUNTRY

Homes from  **McCartneys**



## Aberdovey, Gwynedd

**£1,200,000**

Braich Y Celyn Hall is an extremely impressive and substantial 6 bedroom detached house, dating back about 400 years, with superb far reaching views over the grounds and estuary towards the sea all sitting in just under 5 acres of grounds. EPC Rating: E

**Welshpool: 01938 531000**



## Hengoed, Oswestry

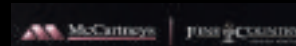
**£399,000**

A detached 4/5 Bedroom barn conversion with a wealth of character and an impressive master bedroom suite, only just over 2.5 miles from Oswestry town centre. Outside, there is ample parking and turning space to the front, along with a detached double garage and large lawn with attractive well stocked flower beds. EPC Rating: TBC

**Welshpool: 01938 531000**

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  - ONLINE VIDEO TOUR OF THE PROPERTY
- LIFESTYLE VENDOR INTERVIEWS WITH A PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST



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## Little Hendomen, Montgomery

**£350,000**

Views of two castles! This marvellous detached 4 bedroom period cottage provides immaculate accommodation set in about 4/10ths of an acre in all, yet only 1.2 miles from the historic town of Montgomery. The rear garden is a fantastic area with stunning far reaching views over miles of countryside. EPC: E

**Welshpool: 01938 531000**



## Llanwddyn, Oswestry

**£395,000**

A substantial 4 double bedroom detached house with gardens extending to about an acre, all within a few hundred yards of Lake Vyrnwy. family. Believed to date back to the 1920's it is understood that the house used to be the home to the Lake Vyrnwy estate manager. EPC: D

**Welshpool: 01938 531000**

**www.mccartneys.co.uk - midwales.fineandcountry.co.uk**

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**01691 772443**
**Llangollen 01978 860346**
**Wrexham**
**01978 340000**

**NEW - NO CHAIN**
**Bradley Fields  
Oswestry £249,995**

- Comfortably appointed & spacious Detached House in a prime location
- Living Rm, Conservatory, Dining Rm, Cloaks, Sitting Rm, Kitchen, Utility
- 4 Excellent Bedrooms, Family Bathroom and Separate Shower Room
- Enclosed gardens to rear together with driveway & double garage
- Gas fired central heating, double glazing. EPC Rating E


**NEW**
**Greystones Way  
Oswestry £189,995**

- An immaculately presented 3 Bedroom Detached Property
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory,
- Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom, 3 Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- A good size tarmac driveway and single garage
- Ample off-road parking, generous landscaped gardens
- Gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing. EPC Rating D


**NEW**
**Oak Drive  
Oswestry £248,995**

- Immaculately presented & spacious mature Detached Family House
- Set in a cul-de-sac position with this popular residential locality.
- Entrance Porch, Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Spacious Living Room
- Dining Rm, Kitchen, Playroom/Bedroom 4, Master Bedroom (en-suite)
- 2 further Double Bedrooms, Study/Box Room and Luxury Bathroom
- Ample off-road parking, carport and landscaped rear garden
- Gas C/H and uPVC double glazing (where stated) EPC Rating


**NEW - NO CHAIN**
**Weston  
Nr Oswestry £159,995**

- A spacious 2/3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Idyllic location, views over open countryside & picturesque mill pond
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility, Lounge
- Sun Room/Bedroom 3, 2 other double Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Ample parking, private gardens to rear & side
- Oil central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating F


**NEW - NO CHAIN**
**Roundwood Close  
Oswestry £139,995**

- Well maintained 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow in a popular area
- Hallway, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms, Bathroom.
- Ample off-road parking, detached garage and low maintenance gardens
- Gas central heating and uPVC double glazing throughout. EPC Rating D


**NEW - NO CHAIN**
**Kimberley Lane  
St Martins £227,000**

- A spacious and well appointed three bedroomed detached bungalow
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Lounge, Conservatory, Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Utility Room, 3 Bedrooms, Family Bathroom.
- Easy to maintain gardens. Integral garage and off road parking
- uPVC D/G, uPVC gutters & fascia boards & Oil C/H. EPC Rating E

## 27th March Property Auction

**2.00pm**
**@ the Lion Quays  
Hotel, Moreton  
Oswestry**

**LOT 1  
AUCTION**  
**Worthenbury WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £150,000**

- Semi Detached Cottage.
- Scope for modernisation
- Sought after village location.
- Double garage.
- Established gardens and parking.
- EPC Rating G
- Contact Wrexham Office


**LOT 2  
AUCTION**  
**Elson Road ELLESMERE**  
**Guide Price Over £225,000**

- Detached 3 bedroom property.
- Requires scheme of modernisation and improvement works
- Integral garage, off road parking
- Large gardens to front and rear.
- EPC Rating - Band E
- Contact Ellesmere Office


**LOT 3  
AUCTION**  
**Overton WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £150,000**

- 5 Bedroom family home.
- In need of modernisation and improvement works.
- uPVC double glazing & Gas fired C/H.
- Popular village location.
- EPC Rating - D
- Contact Ellesmere Office


**NEW**
**Coopers Field  
St Martins £114,995**

- Well presented 3 Bedroom Mid-Terrace Property
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility
- 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom.
- Good size low maintenance gardens, separate rear access point
- uPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating. EPC Rating awaited


**LOT 4  
AUCTION**  
**Pant OSWESTRY**  
**Guide Price Over £270,000**

- 4 Bedroom Split Level Detached
- Views across Shropshire Plain
- Lounge, Dining Room, Balcony
- Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory
- Master Bedroom (En-Suite)
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Oswestry Office


**LOT 5  
AUCTION**  
**Hope WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £150,000**

- Generous Grounds
- Detached Bungalow
- Popular Location
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- EPC Rating E
- Contact Wrexham Office


**LOT 6  
AUCTION**  
**Hightown WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £60,000**

- Three Bedroom Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Forecourt and rear garden
- Scope for modernisation and improvement
- EPC Rating F
- Contact Wrexham office


**LOT 7  
AUCTION**  
**Church St OSWESTRY**  
**Guide Price Over £150,000**

- 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Adjoining Annex & Double Garage
- Large Plot Extending to around 0.52 acre
- Potential Development opportunity
- EPC Rating F
- Contact Oswestry Office


**Donnett Mews  
Whittington £144,995**

- A well appointed two bedroom Barn Conversion
- Situated close to the centre of the village of Whittington
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room
- Two Bedrooms and Bathroom
- The garden is mainly laid to patio and gravel for ease of maintenance
- Off-road parking, double glazing and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D


**LOT 8  
AUCTION**  
**Aberoer WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £200,000**

- Providing tremendous scope for extension and refurbishment into an exceptional and large family home
- Sought after rural surroundings
- Grounds extending to approx 0.96ac
- EPC Rating G
- Contact Wrexham office


**LOT 9  
AUCTION**  
**Ruabon WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £40,000**

- Mid terrace dwelling subject to occupation under a Regulated Tenancy
- Living Room & Kitchen to the ground floor with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom at first floor level.
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Wrexham Office

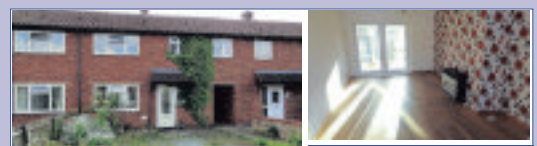

**LOT 10  
AUCTION**  
**Ruabon WREXHAM**  
**Guide Price Over £40,000**

- End terrace dwelling subject to occupation under a Regulated Tenancy
- Living Room & Kitchen to the ground floor with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom at first floor level.
- EPC Rating D
- Contact Wrexham Office



The Auction  
Catalogue can be  
downloaded from

[bowensonandwatson.co.uk/  
online-catalogue](http://bowensonandwatson.co.uk/online-catalogue)


**NEW PRICE - NO CHAIN**
**West Place  
Gobowen £97,500**

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Mid-Terrace Property
- Ent Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Dining Room, Conservatory,
- Three Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Ample off-road parking and large rear garden
- Gas fired central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating D
- The property should be of interest to first time purchasers or investment buyers

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## TIPS OF THE WEEK

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deaths



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TRENGOVE

Margaret

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and expects its staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be prepared to undergo child protection screening, including checks with past employers and DBS. Ellesmere College is a Woodard School



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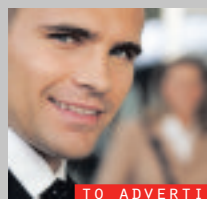
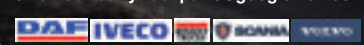
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## NEWS

NEWS  
in briefNew music shop  
opens in Oswestry

MUSICIANS have a new place to buy instruments, music books and accessories after the opening of a specialist music shop in Oswestry.

Oswestry Music has opened in Church Street, in the former dentist's office.

It aims to fill a gap in the market left following the closure of the old Music Makers shop in the town at the start of the year.

The shop is owned by local doctor Wendy Dyke, who is herself a keen musician, with husband Andrew. The shop is managed by professional drummer Dan Deakin. The firm will become known as Oswestry Music Maker from April 1.

Award for MP's  
safety campaign

AN MP based near the Shropshire border has won a national road safety award for her campaign calling for tougher sentences for drivers who kill.

Clywd South MP Susan Elan Jones was given the award from road safety charity Brake. She started the campaign after the death of nine-year-old Robert Gaunt from Overton, near Ellesmere.

Robert was killed by David Lunn, 65, in 2009. Lunn had no licence, no insurance and failed to stop when he hit Robert. He was given a 22-month prison sentence, but served 10 months.

# Council warned it could be forced into merger

TOWN and community councils in Mid Wales could be merged as part of a major shake-up of local government, councillors have been told.

The move comes from recommendation by the Williams Commission which was charged with looking at the future of local authorities in Wales.

Town councillors in Llanfyllin were told that although the commission's main recommendations included the merger of some large county councils, smaller councils would also be affected.

Llanfyllin town councillor John Brautigam said concerns about the impact the changes would have on grassroots councils were brought up at the latest meeting of the North Montgomeryshire Local Council Forum.

He told a meeting of the council: "It was thought Powys has got away without too much change, just being asked to integrate with the teaching health board, but the changes are more reaching."

"There is a provision for community councils like us to be forced to merge to form larger entities."

"What is not clear at all is how many merged councils there is going to be and how exactly they will be funded."

Councillor Brautigam said although he could follow the sense behind the move, the

by Iain StJohn

mergers could throw up challenges.

He said in theory Llanfyllin could be told to merge with a group of councils for the Welshpool area.

The councillor said some difficulties could emerge when councils with lower council tax precepts and which are responsible for very few services are merged with councils which have large budgets and have several responsibilities.

Councillor Brautigam said: "Party leaders at Powys County Council are getting together to see what is being proposed."

"This is due for implementation by 2017. This council as we sit now will disappear in 2017 one way or another."

"Personally I can see the sense in it but I can also see enormous problems because of the way councils are funded for different purposes."

## Hoping to make a difference in Zimbabwe



Ben pointing out where he's going to pupils Isobel Gray, six, left and Osian Hughes, seven.

A young Shropshire man is to travel to Africa in the spring to help young people in one of the poorest countries in the world.

Ben Burton, 22, from Whitton near Oswestry is currently fundraising for the charity behind the trip, which will see him spend three months in Zimbabwe.

He said that as well as its poor economy the country had one of the highest rates of HIV in the world, with 20 percent of 15 to 19-year-olds suffering from the disease.

"I will be working there with the charity Restless Development in a programme designed to help Zimbabwe's youth," he said.

"We will be working with schools to help educate the future generation, providing lessons in sexual health as well as working with local health clinics to provide youth friendly services."

Before leaving Britain in April Ben will be taking part in a challenge to help fund the trip.

"To raise money for this great charity I will be climbing the three highest peaks in Yorkshire in a day."

## Search on for unsung heroes of football

MONTGOMERYSHIRE residents are being urged to help the Football Association identify the area's unsung football heroes.

The area's MP Glyn Davies is encouraging people to nominate teams and individuals for the FA Wales Community Awards 2014.

The FA Community Awards, supported by McDonalds, recognise and reward those unsung heroes who make a difference to grassroots football in their local community, giving up their free time so that children can enjoy the game in safe, welcoming and developing environments.

Individuals and clubs can be nominated for a host of awards including girl player of the year, boy player of the year, school of the year and volunteer of the year.

Awards are also available to the person or team which has made the most impact in grassroots football, and a lifetime achievement award will also be given out.

Mr Davies said: "The coaches and volunteers do it for the love of the game and their commitment to their clubs and communities."

"It is important that their achievements are celebrated and recognised through these awards, in order to ensure that their hard work doesn't go unnoticed."

People can nominate by visiting [www.mcdonalds.co.uk/awards](http://www.mcdonalds.co.uk/awards)

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## NOSTALGIA &amp; NEWS

NEWS  
in brief

## Neighbours asked to join big lunch

ORGANISERS of the UK's largest annual get-together for neighbours are inviting people from Shropshire and Mid Wales to join the thousands of communities taking part in The Big Lunch on June 1.

The Big Lunch is funded by the Big Lottery Fund and partnered by Halifax, ASDA and StreetClub by B&Q. Now in its sixth year, the idea from the Eden Project aims to provide neighbours with a chance to get to know one another better. Free packs, including invitations and posters, seeds, bunting templates and an inspirational booklet, are now available from [www.thebiglunch.com](http://www.thebiglunch.com).

## Man is to face wounding charges

A man has been charged with wounding with intent amid allegations that another man suffered neck injuries with a bottle.

Defendant Joe Sky Davidson, 27, of High Street, Llanfyllin, is charged with wounding Robert Lewis with intent to cause him grievous bodily harm following an incident at Machynlleth on December 1 last year.

Davidson appeared at a preliminary hearing at Mold Crown Court.

Judge Peter Heywood bailed him pending a plea hearing in April.

# Wife's influence brought Celtic green hoops to town

By Toby Neal

HERE'S a little flavour of Scotland on the Oswestry footballing scene from over 60 years ago.

These are the Oswestry Celtic B and Oswestry Celtic A football teams which played on April 21, 1951, in the Oswestry League Bowl semi final. The score was Celtic B 3, Celtic A 5. The Celtic B players are all on the left half of the photo, and Celtic A on the right hand side.

This picture was loaned by 85-year-old Mr Eric Barrow, of Trefonen, who was one of the players that day and can explain the Scottish link.

"The teams were A and B teams of one club, and the As wore green hoops, just like Celtic. The lad who was running the two teams, David Jones, had a Scottish wife who was a Celtic supporter."

And here we go with the line-up: back, from left, Bert Pendrey, Ralph Evans, Bertie Davies, Bob Evans, Eric Howells, Eric Roberts, Owen Roberts, Ron Griffith. Second row down: Mr Lovell, his son Les Lovell (the Lovells were coaches or trainers), Graham Williams, Peter McMann, Dennis Sumner (goalkeeper), Stan Joseph (goalkeeper for A team), Stan Jones (centre half for A team), Derek Williams, Don Roberts,



The Oswestry Celtic B and A teams in 1951.

Frank Barrow (one of the trainers for the A team, not related to Eric). Seated row: Eric Barrow, Ron Evans, D. Hughes, David Jones (manager), Bertie Jones, C. Griffith (brother to Ron), Frank Roberts. Front: Ken Pyke, Ivor

Davies. Eric says of Frank Barrow: "He used to be on the telephones, and I worked on the electricity. Every Christmas we had a week off and used to volunteer as postmen to earn a bit of extra money. We worked together and knew

each other very well, although we were not relations."

He added: "In the Celtic B team are three players called Evans. They are my brother-in-laws. I married their sister, Doris."

Mr Barrow – he is the father of

Shropshire Council leader Keith Barrow, by the way – said: "We played on the old Oswestry showground, down Salop Road."

"The old showground stand was left up and people would sit there," he said.

## Show in need of men who will strip

SHROPSHIRE men are being urged to cast off their coyness and audition for a new production of the comedy, The Full Monty.

Tip Top productions is staging the musical of the story of the six redundant steelworkers from Sheffield in June at Clwyd Theatr Cymru in Mold.

The company presented the show at The Gateway Theatre in Chester in 2006 and then at Clwyd Theatr Cymru in 2007 and have agreed to return again with this musical version of the most successful British film of all time.

Open auditions took place at The Forum Studio Theatre in Chester on Wednesday and will be on again on Sunday.

The same production team of Steve Davies as director, Tim Jones as musical director and Rob Stevens as choreographer are returning to lead the project.

"I'm really looking forward to this production," Steve said.

"The characters are full of humour, warmth and passion – and it's a great story!"

To complete the cast, the production team are looking for adult men and women to take on a variety of chorus and principal roles, as well as a boy aged between eight and 12 to play Nathan, the lead character's son.

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## NEWS

NEWS  
in briefTop Chirk chef  
lands dream job

A celebrity chef from the Shropshire border who wowed opera superstar Luciano Pavarotti with his culinary skills, has landed his dream job.

Dai Chef, who lived in Chirk for many years, has vowed to champion Welsh produce after being appointed as the resident chef at Bodnant Welsh Food in the Conwy Valley.

Dai famously cooked for Pavarotti when he came to perform at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in 1995.

Dai is chef director at the Ship Inn at Red Wharf Bay on Anglesey, and in 2008 he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship at Glyndwr University in Wrexham.

Council invests in  
new technology

A council on the Shropshire/Welsh border is spending £400,000 on new technology so residents can have 24/7 contact with their local authority.

Wrexham Council, which covers communities on the Shropshire border including Chirk, Glyn Ceiriog and Penley, is investing in an interactive online service as a response to customer demands for round the clock contact.

Council bosses say more residents than ever before are now accessing its services online and say they will be bidding for further grants for further improvements to the "self-service" portal.

# Hospital services redesign project to cost over £1m

**MORE than £1 million is to be spent on the project to shake up how specialist clinical services such as accident and emergency treatment are delivered in Shropshire's hospitals – with costs likely to rise further.**

NHS bosses have set aside £1.145 million for the delivery of the Future Fit programme to redesign of how services are delivered in Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Mid Wales.

By Chris Burn

It is expected to result in major changes to the level of service at the Royal Shrewsbury and Princess Royal Hospitals across different specialist departments.

Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group is putting in £633,000 towards the project between the current financial year and 2015/16, with Telford & Wrekin CCG contributing £422,000 and NHS England paying £90,000 towards project costs.

The majority of the money has been earmarked to be spent on the running of a programme management office, with nearly £800,000 put aside for this area.

The report said a programme director, senior programme manager, programme manager and programme administrator will be appointed, while external consultancy support is to be provided by NHS Central Midlands Commissioning Support.

A total of £128,000 has been set aside for commu-

nications and engagement work so far.

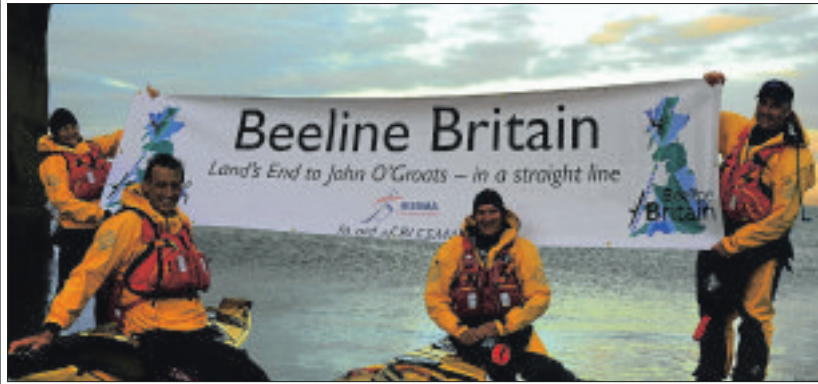
But costs are likely to increase further, with the budgets for several elements of the programme yet to be confirmed in both 2014/15 and 2015/16.

The report said: "The programme budget will be reviewed and updated as the programme progresses and changes will be submitted to the Programme Board for approval."

Work is taking place between Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, Shropshire CCG, Telford and Wrekin CCG Shropshire Community Health Trust and Powys Local Health Board on the project. It will review how and where services such as A&E departments are run.

An outline business case for making changes is due in January next year, at which point a formal public consultation will start. A full business case is scheduled to be completed in early 2016.

## Shropshire men in Beeline challenge



PIC CAP: L-R: Tori James, Nick Beighton, Adam Harmer, Ian O'Grady launch Beeline Britain

(1140492)

TWO Shropshire adventurers are part of a four person team taking part in a unique Lands End to John O'Groats challenge in May - completing the journey in a straight line.

Oswestry helicopter crewman Ian O'Grady and Shrewsbury paralympian Nick Beighton have joined forces with mountaineer Tori James and Welsh outdoor instructor Adam Harmer on the the never before at-

tempted challenge.

Beeline Britain will involve an ambitious 100 hours in a kayak, 34 hours on bikes and more than 12 hours on foot, covering almost 700 miles and taking in St David's Head, Holyhead, the Isle of Man, Glasgow, and the Cairngorm summit.

The challenge was the idea of Crewman O'Grady, who wanted to launch a record breaking twist on the tra-

ditional British journey. It will take place in May.

It is raising money for BLESMA, the charity for limbless servicemen and women and their families. It is being supported by The Endeavour Fund which was created by The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry.

Nick, 32, represented Great Britain in the London 2012 Paralympic Games

## Council's cuts will impact on elderly

COUNCIL cuts could have a "devastating impact" on the lives of older people living in Wales, according to a new report.

The warning by the Older People's Commissioner for Wales comes as Welsh authorities on the Shropshire border, including Powys County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council, wrestle with multi-million pound spending cuts to balance their books.

The new report - "The Importance and Impact of Community Services within Wales" - brings together a wide range of evidence to make a strong case for protecting community services.

The report states they are essential not only to help older people maintain their health, independence and wellbeing, but also to support them in making a huge contribution to the Welsh economy - currently worth £1 billion a year - through continued employment, volunteering and childcare.

Sarah Rochira, Older People's Commissioner for Wales, said: "There is real concern among many older people that these vital services are disappearing, which will have a devastating impact on their lives."

"These services are not luxuries - they are essential to the maintenance of older people's health, independence and wellbeing."

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## FEATURE &amp; NEWS

# Skylark's song heralds the dawning of spring

**PERHAPS** it's the fact that we've had such a damp and miserable start to the year, or that one simply cannot wait for spring... but yesterday I had one of the very best reminders of the coming season that a naturalist can possibly hope for.

The dawn chorus is most loved for its differing melodies, prolonged performance and sheer variety. We'll have to wait a few more weeks for it to burst forth upon us, but there is a very creditable choir at work already in the Salopian countryside and what's more, you only need to find one bird to experience it. Of all the birds encountered in literature, the skylark has to be the most intriguing. To the writers it is so powerfully representative of freedom, inspiration, hope, and joy.

Complex  
Every time I've read an ecstatic poem about skylarks, I wondered why this bird, among all of Britain's songbirds, evoked such emotion. It is not all about the singing of the song itself as many assume, but we might as well start there, for what a song it is! Bird songs are among the most complex sounds produced by animals and the skylark (*Alauda arvensis*) is one of the most complex of all. The songs are composed of 'syllables', consecutive sounds produced in a complex way, with almost no repetition. The male can sing more than 300 different syllables, and each bird's song is slightly different.

Unlike most perching birds, the male sings in flight. He starts up suddenly from

## ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



the ground, goes up high in the sky and hovers there for a few minutes, then plummets down to land on the ground. All this time he is singing. The song has been described rather callously as 'rasping' yet in my view it is still one of the great sounds of the natural world. If you disturb several skylarks, they will all fly up at once and you may well be treated to an audible battery from high above, sounding as though the heavens were alive with birdsong. And this brings us on to the next point.

As the lark sings not from a perch but while flying, so the song emerges from the sky above. Very few birds do this and so it is with the skylark that many people attached heavenly properties. 'Rising like a lark' is a familiar saying but it doesn't just refer to the vertical flight of the male bird. Skylarks are most active in the early mornings and so this little bird, apparently so cheerful, was always regarded as stoic and industrious, welcoming in each new day with passion.

As the night flees and the first glow of dawn appears, all the above characteristics are realised when skylark watching. However if, in the coming weeks, you do find yourself listening to 'the lark ascending' remember to watch where you tread. These are ground-nesters and if they're singing, they're breeding. If they're breeding then that means there are nests and eggs.

Ben will be exhibiting his work in Shrews-



The lark, ascending.

## More buyers are demanding best broadband links

SLOW broadband speeds can play a major role in house sales, with the lack of superfast connectivity a potential dealbreaker, property experts have said.

County estate agents said broadband speed is so vital that buyers are sometimes not even looking at a property if they discover that superfast speeds are not available in the area.

Many areas of Shropshire have a broadband speed slower than 2Mbps (megabits per second) and some parts of the county are still without any broadband connection.

Alison Martin, from Bowen Son & Watson estate agent in Oswestry said agents do get asked about broadband speeds by potential buyers.

"People do mention broadband and ask us to get in touch with the owners to ask about speeds.

"We do get asked about it and it has been something people have asked about for a few years now," she said.

"I don't think we've ever had anyone pass on a purchase for the broadband speeds alone, but it may be a contributing factor in a decision if there are a few little things someone doesn't like.

"We find that people might ask before they even go and view a property as well, so they might decide not to view a property that doesn't get good broadband."

Property search website Rightmove has now added a broadband speed checker to its listings alongside factors such as quality of local schools and transport links.

And company bosses said research conducted among among 3,000 people found that broadband details were ranked as a more important feature when searching for property than information on transport links and nearby schools.

Bernard Phillips, head of consumer platforms at Rightmove, said: "We're pleased to add data on broadband, something that has become ingrained in people's lives and an important factor when choosing a home."

The Government's roll-out of the superfast network to reach 95 per cent of the UK promising speeds of up to 30Mbps has been delayed until 2017, with the latest figures from the communications regulator Ofcom, showing that these broadband speeds are unavailable to a quarter of the country.

According to Connecting Shropshire, just five per cent of homes in the Shropshire Council-covered part of the county already have access to at least 2Mbps connections.

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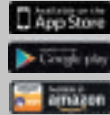
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## THE ARTS

# Search is on for your wartime memories

Graham Breeze

**DID your grandfather, great grandfather or uncle fight during the Great War? If so community hub, Qube at Oswestry wants to hear from you.**

Qube staff are asking for family stories from local people to feature as part of the World War One Recollections Exhibition at Qube Gallery this month.

The exhibition will bring together local memories, photographs and experiences to help build a bigger picture of how the Great War changed the lives of local people.

Qube is interested to find out about the lives of people who fought on the front line and of those they left behind.

Charlotte Jackson, Arts Co-ordinator at Qube said: "We want to put real names and personal stories behind the numbers and lists. If you have a snippet of information or an old photograph passed on from a relative we would really love to know and hear your family story."

Charlotte is inviting people to bring in any photos, stories or artefacts into Qube on Oswald Road, Oswestry. Alternatively you can email [info@qube-osca.org.uk](mailto:info@qube-osca.org.uk) or call (01691) 656882.

The World War One Recollections Exhibition will be on display from March 13 to May 5. Qube is open from 9am - 5pm on Monday to Friday and 9:30am - 12:30pm on Saturdays. Admission is free.

Qube is a charity based in Oswald Road, Oswestry where the mission is to provide services to the community. Qube run community transport and provide access to the arts in a rural



Charlotte Jackson with part of the display at Qube.

environment.

Throughout the year the venue hosts a broad range of exhibitions, with local, national and international artists work, the exhibitions are supported by a varied programme of talks and workshops.

The organisation supports the local art community by providing display

and retail facilities for their work and on any given day display a collection of locally made unique jewellery and gift items for sale, and provide information about what's on in Oswestry.

Qube Shopmobility provides a mobility scooter loan service for the town and district, helping people to get to shops and services.



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## GIG GUIDE

# Ukulele mayhem now about to break out

## GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts

**PREPARE yourselves for a monstrously good time this Friday as The Ukey Monster bring their own brand of ukulele based mayhem to The Cross Keys, Selattyn.**

The Ukey Monster is a different kind of beast compared to your typical band.

The 13 piece collective is predominantly made up of ukulele players, though there are a few other instruments thrown in for good measure.

As far as their set list, expect the unexpected, as the group are one of the most eclectic and original covers band around at the moment.

From Lilly Allen to Motorhead, the band takes popular hits and transforms them into something completely different, featuring plenty of sizzling ukulele solos and double bass driven goodness.

The gig starts at 8pm with tickets costing £6 for adults and £3 for children.

It should be noted that due to the size of the band there will be a limited number of tickets available. For more information ring - 01691 650293.

If you're in the Welshpool area on Friday night, then head over to The Royal Oak as there will be music from Beth Prior.

Armed with just an acoustic guitar and an excellent singing voice, Beth



The Ukey Monster

plays an absorbing mix of folk, roots and soul.

The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry.

As if there wasn't enough for you to do on Friday night, Dai Robs will also be playing an acoustic set at The Lowfield Inn, Marton.

The gig starts at 8pm and is free entry.

Over the last year The Hermon Chapel, Oswestry has emerged as one of the best venues for live music in the area.

Continuing with that trend, the venue will be playing host to cult folk musician Gary Hall this Saturday. Since releasing his debut album 'Garage Heart' back in 1989, Gary has embarked on a prolific music career.

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with spirited bidding throughout and a total clearance reported. A top price of £1530 (244p/kg) went to 3 Charolais x steers aged 16-21 months sold by D G Williams, Llandrillo. The same vendor's excellent show continued with bunches of Charolais x steers aged 16-21 months selling for £1470 x 2 (257 & 256p/kg) & £1345 (242p/kg) and heifers £1150 (231p/kg) & £1130 (224p/kg), £1200 (222p/kg) & £1180 (215p/kg). 101 steers averaged £1058 (218p/kg) with notable prices including: £1150 (253p/kg) & £1130 (242p/kg) paid for Charolais x steers aged 21 & 22 months sold by R L G Edwards, Llansantffraid. £900 (257p/kg) & £860 (246p/kg) paid for 2 Limousin x steers aged 9 & 10 months sold by J G & I M Evans, Dolgellau. £1275 (249p/kg) paid for 3 British Blue x steers aged 18-21 months sold by P L Harrison, Tregynon. 85 heifers averaged £877 (201p/kg) with notable prices including: £725 (246p/kg) paid for a pair of Limousin x heifers all aged 11 months sold by J G & I M Evans, Dolgellau. £855 (214p/kg) & £810 (216p/kg) paid for 2 pairs of Limousin x heifers aged 10-13 months sold by R J Slater & Son, Baschurch. £940 (211p/kg) paid for 6 Limousin x heifers aged 19-21 months sold by W T Thomas, Llanarnon D C. Enquiries should for our next catalogue sale to be held on the 12th March. If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details notify the Market office 01691 653547 so our data base can be updated.

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# Popular Leon gets estate

By Graham Breeze

**Why it's taken SEAT so long to introduce an estate version of the popular Leon range is anyone's guess.**

But now they have and the company has done a great job, managing to keep the highly impressive hatchback's style and handling in place.

It's called a Sports Tourer – but it is an estate in my book – and the third bodystyle in the range, joining the five-door hatch and three-door Sport Coupe (SC).

The line-up is the same as the five-door too with S, SE and FR trim levels, and power coming from a selection of turbo-charged petrol and diesel engines. My pick is the SE 1.6TDI 105PS version with a starting price of £19,495, average fuel con-

sumption figures of an amazing 74.3mpg and CO2 emissions of only 99g/km.

Surprisingly you still get a top speed of 119mph from this model though getting to 62mph will take you over 11 seconds.

So SEAT haven't let anyone down with the performance side and certainly haven't with the additional space.

Boot space is particularly impressive and while the Leon is not top of the class it does command a medal place with an impressive moveable boot floor, easy folding rear seats and even a folding front passenger seat, just in case you need to carry the odd coffin.

The Leon shares the same chassis as Audi A3 and VW Golf, so solid handling is guaranteed, with a tight ride and responsive steering, though the ride is quite firm and was commented on by rear seat passengers. Inside this Leon is a genuine five seater with leg and head room to spare



with the fascia taken from the earlier models. Like all SEAT's that means practical and simple.

The touch-screen control centre is well positioned and simple to operate, which is a real bonus when driving different cars each week. Often the week has gone by the time I have mastered the controls. Why can't they all be standard?

There's the same safety levels as on the rest of the range. That means seven airbags, stability control, emergency brake assist and a tyre pressure monitoring system.

You get active front head restraints to minimise whiplash, Isofix child-seat mounting points, remote central locking and an alarm which has helped SEAT record the maximum five stars in Euro NCAP crash tests.

The test car came complete with LED head-

lamps and DAB digital radio, heated front seats, heated front washers, rain sensing wipers, light sensors and electric folding door mirrors.

I was impressed by the automatic light dipping system, which must be a big must for all manufacturers, and the driver pack, which includes lane assist. You get Bluetooth, USB input, air-con, colour touch-screen, wheel-mounted audio controls and electric front windows, so you get quite a bit for your money. It also had 17" alloys and tinted rear windows, all of which totalled £3,330 and helped the price up to £22,825.

The big competition will probably come from Skoda and Golf and SEAT is the cheaper option.

I've become a bit of a SEAT fan over the years and I can't say that I'm anything but impressed by this latest addition.

## TESTED

SEAT: Leon ST

Model: SE 1.6 TDI

Cost: £19,495

Top speed: 119mph

0-62mph: 11.1secs

CO2 emissions: 99g/km

Combined fuel: 74.3mpg

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## Drivetime

# Big Cat gets a sleeker look

By Andy Enright

**Some cars dress up very nicely. The Jaguar XF executive model is one of them. Choose it in supercharged XFR or XFR-S performance guises and it's every bit the BMW M5 rival.**

Where Jaguar has historically missed a trick is offering that same look with its more affordable diesel engines and more realistically priced trim levels as, say, BMW does with its M Sport trim on the 5 Series. But the Solihull brand has now caught up. Hence the availability of the R-Sport trim we're looking at here on more dynamic-looking variants of the XF saloon and XF Sportbrake estate.

Order your XF as an R-Sport and you get the standard recipe embellished with much of the look which characterises the range-topping XFR super saloon model.

There's a choice of saloon or estate body-styles and you can select between all three of the main diesel engines in the XF line-up. That means the familiar 2.2-litre powerplant in 163 or 200PS guises, plus the 240PS 3.0-litre diesel V6.

Yes, the R-Sport package merely represents a trim level: there are no mechanical changes over the standard XF. But that doesn't necessarily mean this car is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

If you really want some strong pulling power in your XF R-Sport, there's the option of the 3.0-litre V6 diesel with 240PS. For most, however, there's more relevance in the performance of that 2.2-litre diesel. The entry-level 163PS XF will stop the watch at 9.8 seconds.

But the 200PS version, which is actually just as clean and economical, manages it in a far more sprightly 8.5 seconds, on the way to a 142mph maximum. With 450Nm of torque available from only 2,000rpm, there's no shortage of muscle with this en-



gine, and the XF eight-speed auto transmission means you're always plugged into the meat of it.

Across the XF range, advances have been made in refinement, with active engine mounts (diesels) and sound deadening material featuring on the car as well as redesigned wing mirrors to reduce wind noise.

Since its main facelift back in Spring 2011, the XF has had a much sleeker look, something that's also a feature of the sleek Sportbrake estate. That model has a 1675-litre total loading capacity and there are nearly 100 different ways to configure the interior.

Inside, it's still a special experience. The auto gear selector rises into the palm of your hand on start-up as the dashboard airvents acrobatically

turn into position to greet you as you fire the ignition.

If your only experience of XF motoring is of the original version, then in this current model, you'll appreciate the more supportive seats, the smarter satin-feel switches and the classier graphics on the 7-inch touch screen which looks after most of the main dashboard functions.

Relax inside an XF and from the stitched leather dashboard and door cappings to the aluminium and wood furnishings, it really does feel special. The craftsmanship, materials and attention to detail all impress.

Jaguar's designers have sought to find more interesting ways to say 'luxury', and largely, their efforts have worked. The lines are clean and

pure, the materials are familiar, but with a very modern flavour – from soft-grained leathers to real wood veneers with a bold, contemporary spin. Even the phosphor-blue interior lighting has its own mood.

No apologies for concentrating on that 2.2-litre diesel engine again. In 163PS form, it's available in the latest ECO2 spec which, amongst other things, uses an engine stop/start system to deliver a 57.7mpg combined cycle fuel figure along with 129g/km of CO2.

If you've set your heart on a Jaguar XF, then you'll not be unaware of the driveway statement your purchase will make. In which case, you're likely to be very tempted by R-Sport spec, even at a £3,000 premium over the standard model.



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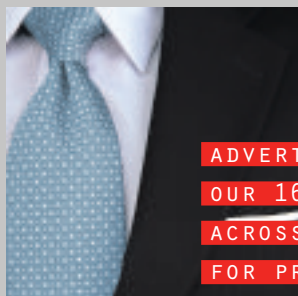
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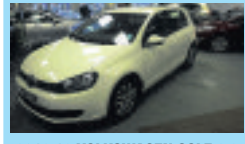
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SPORT

Ladies net vital win to stave off drop worry

FOLLOWING a two-week break, Oswestry ladies returned to duty with a welcome 2-1 home win over Macclesfield and Bollington to ensure they would retain their place in the Cheshire Womens Hockey League division two again for next season, writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.

A sunny and dry day saw Oswestry make a bright start, applying some early pressure as Macc/Bolli defended in numbers, allowing little space in which to shoot.

After several near misses on the visitors' goal, there was a feeling that a score must come as Oswestry continued to push forward in greater numbers.

However, they were stunned when Macclesfield/Bolli ngtonbroke upfield to secure a short corner which saw a powerful strike into the bottom corner give them the lead against the run of play.

Stung by the goal, Oswestry were quick to respond as they tried to make more meaningful runs into the D and were level through a short corner of their own, with Tracey Royle slotting home.

Stretch

With the scores all square at the half-time break, the border side felt they could capitalise after the interval and set out to score another goal.

The second half saw both teams have chances, but the Oswestry defence kept their visitors at bay before getting their noses in front.

More quick passes saw the hosts start to stretch the Macc/Bolli defence and this pressure was rewarded with another short corner opportunity. This time, they tried a different tactic which resulted in Lisa Bladen scoring with a brilliant strike to clinch a 2-1 success.

Victory means Oswestry are now safe in division two for next season, showing the strength of their recovery in the second part of the campaign.

They will be out to continue their momentum as they aim for three more points when they undertake Saturday's trip to Alderley Edge III.

High fives for Crosses in super win

FOUR Crosses Reserves completed a terrific weekend for the club with an emphatic 5-0 away win at Newtown in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division two.

While the senior side won 1-0 at home to Tywyn Brun-crug in the Spar Mid Wales League, the second string were also in good form with joint manager Lloyd Chainey describing the victory as 'awesome and well deserved'.

Missing top scorer Dan Jay it looked as if goals may be hard to come by, but forward Ryan Kenny stepped up to the mark grabbing a hat trick along with goals from midfielders Nick Wilcock and Ryan Wharton.

Results - Emrys Morgan Cup, quarter final: Betws 3 Aberystwyth 0. Final: Llansanffraid Village Cup, quarter-final: Churchoke 2 Betws 0.

Honda One: Llanyfyllin 1 Llannaf Res 4, Abernure Res 4 Newtown Res 0, Llangelynnau 4 Llansanffraid 6. Mitsubishi: Llansanffraid Wanderers 0 Four Crosses Res 5, Carno Res 0 Llanyfyllin 7, Waterloo Colts 2 Maesysghall 3

Gary grabs a hat-trick Llanfair out of cup

THE prolific Gary Meredith fired another hat-trick as LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE consolidated seventh position in the Spar Mid Wales League division one with a 4-3 success over MONTGOMERY at Treflan, Keiran Evans also on target.

FOUR CROSSES made it back-to-back wins after seeing off Tywyn Bryn-crug 1-0, with top scorer Gaz Jones slotting the only goal of the game.

Nick Popyk's side had enough chances to have made the scoreline more comfortable with Jones and Steve Tomkins both heading wide.

The breakthrough came in the second half when Dylan Ellis beat two defenders and fired a low cross into the box and top scorer Gaz Jones was on hand to divert past

the visiting keeper.

With Jordan Gerrard dominating the midfield battles Ellis, Alex Gunn and skipper Andrew Webb continued to create opportunities.

However, Crosses couldn't add to the scoreline with Jones and Tomkins both failing to capitalise, and it needed a good save late on from Gaz Wilson to secure the three points.

In the day's only other division one game, Aberystwyth University shared a 2-2 draw at Bulth Wells after twice leading through Ben Jenkins and Tom Sparks.

A stunning free-kick from Lloyd Evans steered Oswestry Boys under-13s into the semi-final of the Charity Cup with a 1-0 extra time win over Baschurch Tigers.

LLANFAIR United's hopes of Spar Mid Wales League Cup glory ended as they bowed out 3-2 at home to Berriew in the second round.

Rhys Stephens' men had led 1-0 through Geraint Jones, but paid the price for failing to take their first half chances as Berriew turned the tie around in the second period.

Elliot Jones, Josh Gethin and Karl Selerts were all on target for the visitors before Llanfair pulled one back through Chris Gethin in injury time.

WELSHPOOL'S poor run continued as they lost 1-0 at second division Bont, while it was also the end of the road for KERRY who were beaten 2-0 at home to Rhosgch.

Charlie Proctor scored twice as WATER-LOO ROVERS avoided any surprises to se-

cure a 4-3 passage at Talgarth, Steve Hole and Marcus Ashley also on the mark.

DYFFRYN BANW's mini revival was halted with a 3-1 exit against visiting Ab-raeron whose Gareth Severs (2) and Matty Davies were on target, with Tom Foulkes pulling one back

Dean Evans was both hero and villain as Bow Street booked their quarter-final ticket with a 1-0 home success against Knighton Town, the striker scoring the only goal of the tie before being sent off.

Carno overcame Llandrindod Wells for the second week running to seal their spot in the last eight when running out 2-1 winners, while Machynlleth were convincing 5-2 victors at home to Presteigne.

Ellesmere swimmers are golden record breakers

SWIMMING

by John Bridgwater

RISING swimming stars from Ellesmere College Titans Swimming Club concluded the final weekend of the Shropshire ASA County Championships at Wolverhampton in some style.

In taking an unprecedented 347 medals during the four days of competition was just simply staggering – and this despite missing some key members out with illness or niggling injuries.

In addition, a spectacular 53 Shropshire County records (plus nine from other Shropshire clubs) were broken by the Ellesmere swimmers as well as 62 club records.

Leading the way was 12-year-old Ellinor Southward who finished the championships by winning every one of her events. Her single medal total alone resulted in an amazing 16 golds together with four Shropshire county records and nine of 'Titans' own Club Records.

In the end of year UK short course rankings, Southward now sits in first place in one, second in three, third in three, fourth in two, fifth in three and sixth in two events making her in the top six in 14 events.

This is very rare, most possibly unprecedented, in the ASA and represents a great swimming career blossoming and reflects on her natural talent.

Others top on the medal table were 14-year-old Tazmin Pugh with 12 golds two silver and a bronze and nine Shropshire county records and 15 club records.

Pugh is now first in the UK in three events, second in two, third in three, fourth in one and fifth in two more and is in the top 10 in 11 events.

Pugh's time of 28.85 in the 50m fly was the fourth fastest of all time from over 10,000 records kept for that event and now sits in the top 30 of all time in five events.

At the tender age of 10, Esme Hughes took the Championships by storm winning eight golds and three silver with one County Record.

Commonwealth trials

Eleven-year-old Jade Hamilton won five gold six silver and two bronze medals with one county and club record.

Putting in great performances was Chloe Golding (15) who took home 11 golds being top girl in the pool in nearly as many, two silver, one bronze together with seven county and club records and in the top ten in eight events in the UK rankings.

Fellow team mate Olivia Gardner (15) won five golds, 10 silver, two bronze and two Shropshire and five club records. Llawan Russell-Smith (17) also took five gold and three silver medals and two County records.

These older girls will now be preparing for the Commonwealth Games trials in April.

Another youngster performing tremendously was 11-year-old Jade Hamilton breaking personal bests galore and winning three golds, seven silver and two bronze medals – making it 12 medals in total as well as breaking a county record.

Chantelle Ridgeway (15) swam a great new personal best in the 100m fly to record her first win followed by two silver and six bronze medals.

In the very final event the 400m free 14-year-old Mur-rin Dalrymple (14) took gold with a new county and club rRecord, together with three silver and five bronze over the Championships.

The boys were far from being outdone in fact winning even more County Championship titles with Charlie Hutchison (11) repeating Southward's feat (above) himself winning all but one of the events he competed in taking home twelve golds with seven County and 'Titans' club records.

Hutchison himself sits proudly in first place in seven events in the UK rankings, second in two and third in one more.

Young 10-year-old Ben Holland won nine golds and championship titles and two county records as well as top boy once again together with a silver medals. Joseph Small (13) also took an impressive nine golds at the same time breaking one county and three club records.



Medal moment – Ellesmere College's Swimming team after their stunning success at the County Championships



Crunch time – the COBRA forwards run into a wall of Bro Ffestiniog defenders. Picture: Trevor Jones.

COBRA boost survival hopes

COBRA notched a welcome 18-0 at Bro Ffestiniog to revive their hopes of climbing out of the bottom two in rugby's Swalec League division one (North).

The Meifod side have struggled on the road this season, but gained a long overdue success thanks to a try at the start of each half.

It proved a creditable display, but the only downside was that basement rivals Dolgellau also won on the same day, 10-5 against Caernarfon, to stay one place above them in the table.

However, with three home games remaining, and just one away, COBRA will be hopeful of edging themselves up the table in the coming weeks.

This weekend, the Llanfair Caereinion had been due to visit Bala in the North Wales Cup, but that game was unlikely to go ahead. The following

week, they face a crunch home clash against Dolgellau in the league.

Looking for an elusive away win, COBRA made the perfect start when Iwan Vaughan, playing at scrum half, darted over following a forward drive.

Alwyn Williams, who had switched to fly-half, added the conversion before kicking two further penalties for a 13-0 interval lead.

Postponed

The points were effectively in the bag once COBRA added a second try five minutes after the interval when No8 Aled Davies touched down from a forward drive following a line-out.

Bro rarely suggested they could find a way back, with chances limited against a well-marshalled visiting side.

After their home game with Bangor was postponed as their visitors were

unable to raise a side, WELSHPOOL arranged a friendly at Swalec League division three (north) rivals Llanid- loes.

It proved a good workout despite the Maesydre side losing 27-5 to the league title chasers as they prepare for Satur- day's tricky trip to Menai Bridge, with the hosts running in five tries to one for Pool.

The club's second team succumbed 55-8 to Mold II in the North East Counties League, with the visitors earning a flattering margin of victory after grabbing three late tries.

Pool battled hard, and went over for a try through centre Scott Jones while Chris Proctor kicked a penalty.

Welshpool's youngsters, mean- while, won a high scoring tussle 35-27 against Abergele in the North Wales Youth League

STANDINGS

Mercian League

Premier division: Ketley Bank Utd 1, Telford Juniors 5, Division one: Childs Eccall 3, Bishop's Castle Town 2, Shrewsbury Utd Reserves 2, Oswestry Villa 2, Division two: Claverley 4, Altrington Juniors 0, Denso 0, AFC Brosley 20.

Cup results – Premier division round one: Church Stretton 2, Oaken-gates Athletic 0; Bishop's Castle 2, Bridgnorth Reserves 1, Division one round one: Dawley Town 1, Rock Rovers 3; Shrewsbury Utd 0, Oaken-gates Reserves 6; Wrockwade Wood Juniors 0, Wroxeter Rovers 5, Division two round one: Highley Miners Welfare 1, Donnington Sports and Social 4; Impact Utd 2, Wrockwade Wood 4; Market Drayton Tigers 4, Oswestry Villa Reserves 1.

PREMIER DIVISION

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oaken-gates Athletic	17	14	3	2	74	14
Whitchurch A R	20	8	7	5	37	19
Church Stretton	17	9	3	5	35	24
Telford Juniors	18	8	4	6	43	29
Mold United	16	7	2	3	32	34
Ketley Bank Utd	18	8	3	7	24	34
FC Hodnet	17	7	4	6	21	23
Madeley Sports	17	7	4	6	21	23
Wellington RFC	16	6	4	6	28	29
Prees	20	7	1	12	32	51
Altrington	20	4	7	9	31	41
Weston Rly	18	5	4	9	30	47
Shifnal United	17	5	3	6	23	19
Bridgnorth T Res	18	4	6	8	21	37

DIVISION 1

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Oswestry Town	19	14	3	2	74	14
Childs Eccall	17	14	0	3	80	14
Bishop's Castle	17	13	0	5	68	20
Wroxeter Rovers	12	9	3	0	52	11
Dawley Town	20	9	3	8	51	40
Hanwood Utd R	16	9	3	4	48	29
Rock Rovers FC	15	9	2	4	57	30
Clee Hill	15	7	5	3	39	26
Oaken-gates Ran	17	7	2	9	34	47
Brown Clee	16	1	1	4	44	36
Oswestry Villa	19	5	4	10	36	49
Meole Brace	17	4	2	11	30	81
Wrock Wood Jms	20	3	2	15	21	31
Shawbury Res	19	3	2	14	21	83
Shrewsbury Utd	21	2	1	18	26	74

DIVISION 2

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AFC Brosley	21	19	2	0	143	20
Wrock Wood	21	17	2	2	94	31
AFC Wellington	22	15	1	6	132	46
Donnington S	18	14	0	4	104	41
Impact	18	13	3	2	89	29
Claverley	19	11	0	8	71	33
M Dyon Tgs	19	10	1	8	48	31
Ludlow T Colts	22	9	2	11	89	54
Abington Jun	19	6	1	12	47	19
Highley MW	21	5	3	13	48	18
Spaig Britain	20	5	2	13	29	95
Oswestry Villa R	19	4	2	13	20	61
Shrewsbury UR	18	2	0	16	22	119
Denso	22	0	1	22	22	6

English Rugby South Lincs/Cheshire 2

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ormskirk	21	18	1	1	14	58
Manchester M	20	18	0	2	16	86
L'pool Collegiate	20	17	1	2	14	84
L'pool	20	17	1	2	14	84
Southport	22	13	0	9	10	57
Vagabonds	21	11	0	10	9	53
Oswestry	21	9	1	11	12	50
Port Sunlight	21	8	1	12	9	43
Moore	20	7	1	12	9	39
Orrell	21	7	1	13	9	39
Dukfield	20	7	1	13	9	39
Marple	20	5	0	15	6	26
Ramsay	21	5	0	16	4	24
Wallasey	20	0	0	20	3	22

Stonehouse Brewery Oswestry & District Dominoes League

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cross Foxes	19	10	3	6	69	49
Black Lion A	18	10	3	5	66	42
Black Lion B	19	8	7	4	65	49
Top White Lion	18	8	6	5	58	56
Stations	19	8	6	5	58	56
Perryport Inn	19	6	9	4	60	54
Plas Yn Dinas	19	8	7	4	59	55
Bradford Arms	18	7	5	6	56	50
Horseshoe	18	7	5	6	56	50
White Lion	18	3	9	6	50	58
Black Horse	19	3	10	4	47	62
Railway Tavern	18	3	11	4	42	68
Barley Mow	18	3	12	3	74	9

Welshpool Dominoes League DIVISION 1

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pinewood C	19	14	5	5	83	50
Cock P/A	19	14	5	5	81	50
Sun Inn	19	12	9	8	80	67
Cock A	19	10	9	7	73	60
Waterloo	19	11	8	7	71	62
Powis Arms P/O	20	11	11	7	71	76
G/Dragn Butt B	19	10	9	9	67	66
G/Dragn Butt A	20	11	11	8	66	74
Pinewood A	19	10	9	10	68	68
Social Club	20	14	5	7	83	83
Celts	19	6	13	5	78	58
Compasses	19	13	5	11	51	62

DIVISION 2

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Talbot	19	14	5	5	86	47
Westwood Ward	20	14	6	8	84	56
Bowling Club	19	12	7	8	80	53
The Real Railway	19	12	7	7	79	54
Bradford	20	11	9	7	74	66
Angel	21	11	10	7	77	77
Kings Head	20	10	10	6	71	71
Pinewood Dragons	19	10	11	8	70	67
Murres Burch	19	10	11	8	70	67
Westwood	20	14	5	6	84	84
RAF Boys	19	6	13	5	80	50
Wellington	19	15	4	5	91	91

Shropshire Minor County Sunday Football League UNDER 17

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nova Utd Youth	11	1	1	7	13	32
Meole Brace	11	3	3	4	29	15
O'kenegats R	8	5	3	2	21	18
S'bury Jm Colts	8	5	2	15	14	15
S'bury Up/C	9	3	3	16	12	12
Shawbury Utd	10	3	1	25	11	11
Spalg	10	0	10	75	0	0

UNDER 18

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nova Utd	11	8	1	3	19	10
Wrock Wood	11	8	1	3	19	10
B'north Spartans	6	1	20	17	18	18
M Tiggers	9	1	4	20	17	18
Ellesmere Rovers	9	1	3	20	17	18
Wern Town	8	4	3	17	12	15
Meole Brace	11	3	5	33	26	13
Shawbury Utd	12	1	11	25	11	11
Prees FC	12					



## SPORT

## Heathcock gets Morda off to flier in cup win

AN Ian Heathcock goal after just 45 seconds set Morda United on their way to a comfortable home win over AFC Bridgnorth reserves and a place in the quarter final of the Premier Division Cup.

Further strikes from Chris Bishop, Sam Litchfield and Gareth Lewis and a reply from Daniel Taylor saw Morda 4-1 up at the interval before a largely uneventful second half produced no further goals as the Weston Road side strolled to victory.

Morda manager Craig Rogers made two changes to the side which had made a winning return to action the previous week after a weather-enforced break.

Lee Waddingham was brought in at right back and Jack Hughes joined midfield while the bench was packed with experienced players. The home side went ahead straight from the kick off when a terrific cross from Bishop fell to Heathcock whose shot was too powerful for keeper Michael Sturrock.

Bishop, with his pace and intelligent running, was proving to be a handful for the visiting defence.

The striker had a firm shot well saved, and then beat the offside trap and fired accurately past the advancing keeper to hit Morda's second on nine minutes. Against the run of play, Bridgnorth hit back when a speculative long range shot from Taylor found the net before Morda keeper Tony Davies could move.

The hosts, however, maintained their dominance and a trip on Lewis gave them a penalty which Litchfield hammered home firmly from the spot.

Lewis claimed the fourth with a neat turn and accurate shot, while United maintained the pressure with Bishop thwarted by the keeper and Lewis side footing narrowly wide.

After an entertaining first half, the second period proved a disappointment as Morda continued to hold the upper hand, but neither side created any real chances.

On Saturday, Rogers' men will again be in cup action when they travel to face Cleve Hill United in the Shropshire FA Challenge Cup.

## The latest Oswestry golf returns

**February Stableford Division 1:** H Jones 38pts; G Evans 35pts; D Thomas (1531) 34pts (c/b); O Wheeler 34pts (c/b); M Jenks 34pts (c/b); D James 34pts. **Division 2:** A Humphries 33pts; B Webb 32pts; R Pell 31pts; M Smith (340) 30pts (c/b); A Shannon 30pts; B Fernies 29pts (c/b). **Division 3:** P Pattenden 40pts; R Matthews 36pts; I Bowe 35pts; D Jones 34pts; P Clifford 33pts; J McLean 32pts. **Best Gross:** G Evans 73pts (c/b). **Four Ball Better Ball Medal 15 Holes:** G Huggett & C Chilles 54; D James & B Fernies 56; T Alexander & R Rees 57 (c/b); O Wheeler & O Hughes 57 (c/b); K Probert (Vice Captain) & I Bowe 57; J Poole & M Jones 60 (c/b). **Ladies Draw for Partners 3-2-1 Stableford 18 Holes:** T Pearce, A Davies, N Orrells 68pts; M Allford, C Johnson, T Pearce (Hidden Partner) 64pts; G Woolham, D Mottram, S Watanabe 63pts; M Male, D S Jones, M Brogden 63pts;

## Guils stand firm to make point on the road

PATCHED-UP Guilsfield overcame the absence of some key personnel to secure a plucky 1-1 draw at home to 10-man Llandudno to remain in fifth spot in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance.

The Seaside had taken the lead through a penalty from Dean Seagar early in the second period but Kevin Renshaw earned parity on 72 minutes to ensure a hard fought encounter finished all square.

Guilsfield had gone into the game without top scorer Danny Barton and regular keeper Dave Littleford, plus centre back partnership James Henderson and James O'Reilly.

Young reserve keeper Jimmy Humphreys

came in for his debut and Nick Jones also started his first full match of the season.

The home side were given a boost when Llandudno defender Jonny Spittle was shown a red card on 34 minutes for foul language directed towards an assistant linesman.

The first half remained scoreless but the deadlock was broken in the first minute after the break when the hosts lost possession and James Joyce's run into the box came to an end with a trip by Ford in the penalty area. Seagar stepped up to send Humphreys the wrong way to give Llandudno the advantage.

The 10-man visitors looked comfortable

for long periods of the second half as the Guils' passing failed to gain momentum.

However, the home side kept plugging away and were rewarded on 74 minutes as Renshaw found space on the right and his shot deflected off a defender and flew into the top of the net for the equaliser.

Guilsfield - whose next league game is at Llanidloes Town on March 11 - tried to apply pressure late on but were unable to snatch the three points, while Llandudno were themselves were denied by the upright.

They may look doomed to relegation, but rock bottom LLANRHAEADR gave themselves something to shout about with a wel-

come 2-1 win at fellow strugglers Penycae.

Two goals in three minutes earned the villagers the spoils, Lewis Jones on the mark on 70 minutes before Iwan Matthews quickly added a second from the penalty spot three minutes later after Jones had been brought down.

But Llanrhaeadr came back strongly to boss the second period, with Matthews crossing for Jones to level while Matthews fired home a penalty.

The villagers take a break from the league to visit Montgomery in the Central Wales Cup on Saturday.

**Huws Gray Cymru Alliance (2.30):** Caernarfon vs Buckley Town, Cefn Druids vs Llanidloes, Flint vs Penryncoch, Llandudno vs Caersws, Rhydymwyn vs Conwy Borough.

## High fives as Saints march up the table

REVITALISED St Martins continue to climb the West Midlands League division one table after securing an entertaining 5-3 victory at Penncroft.

After languishing in the relegation zone at the start of the year, the Saints are now close to mid-table after making it five wins in their last six games, although they will mindful that they have played more games than many of their rivals.

Buoyed by recent success, the visitors started in confident mood with James Durnam and Karl Bailey both going close, while Melusi lost his footing when through on goal.

Bailey was denied by a fine save as the keeper tipped the ball over, and missed chances looked to be costly as Penncroft took the lead through Jake Lloyd on 43 minutes.

However, St Martins roared back to go ahead at the break with two quickfire goals, Melusi playing a one-two with Bailey before slotting home to level and then Bailey fired his side ahead in injury time from Sam Thomas' cross.

Melusi then rounded the keeper to make it 3-1 10 minutes into the second half from a cross by man of the match Tom Freeman.

But Penncroft hit back with Ryan Bradshaw beating Paul Foster with a header, and then firing over the keeper to level moments later.

The home side spurned a chance to go ahead when Foster saved a penalty which was harshly awarded for handball, and the Saints took advantage to take the points.

They got their noses in front through Sam Nash before Bailey stooped to head in No5 in the closing stages.

The Saints will be out to maintain their good run when they host bottom club Wolverhampton United on Saturday.

## FOOTBALL

by John Bridg-

The New Saints 2 Airbus UK 0  
THE New Saints stayed on course for the double after progressing to the Welsh Cup semi-finals as two late goals finally saw off title rivals Airbus at Park Hall.

Having failed to defeat the Wingmakers in four previous meetings this season, the Welsh Premier pacesetters finally prevailed as Mike Wilde and Sam Finley both struck in the last 10 minutes to settle an evenly contested affair.

Wilde made the breakthrough when tucking the ball past keeper James Coates after a terrific run down the left by Jamie Mullan, and Finley curled home the second in the last minute to secure a last four spot.

Director of football Craig Harrison felt his side fully merited their victory that kept the firmly on course for silverware this season, being the only side from the top six of the Welsh Premier left in the competition.

"Airbus are strong from set plays, they put us under pressure as we expected and had a couple of chances, but I felt we controlled the game from start to finish," he said. "We won the league and cup double in my first season in charge, and I really want to do it again this season."

TNS had found Airbus more than match this season, drawing three times in the league and losing in the Word League Cup, and Saturday's quarter-final tie proved another well matched affair. But the Saints had the better of the early opportunities, going close three times in quick succession as they made significant inroads.

## Thumping

Chris Seargent's low 30-yard strike was turned round the post by diving keeper Coates on 12 minutes and moments later Wilde volleyed over from 12 yards after Aeron Edwards had hooked a cross into the box.

Then, Mullan weaved his way into the box from the left, but his strike from an acute angle was blocked by Coates. Following a poor clearance, Kai Edwards' skidding 25-yard strike was well saved by Coates low down, but the ball fell for Wilde who could only steer his close range effort against the post at full stretch, with the keeper gratefully clutching the rebound.

The Wingmakers were denied by the woodwork five minutes before the break when Hart sent a thumping far post header against the bar from another Field corner.

However, TNS were not to be denied 10 minutes from time when Mullan launched a storming run down the right and pulled back from the byline for Wilde who steered the ball through the legs of Coates from eight yards.

Finley, who escaped with a caution earlier in the game after catching Airbus forward Chris Budrys with an elbow, sealed the victory in the last minute in fine style when he cut in from the left and curled his shot into the far corner.

■ The goals are flowing for TNS under-19s who have scored 33 times in their last four outings following two more big wins.

Liam Walker bagged four as the Saints swamped Saltney 14-1 in the NE Wales under-19s Cup, with George Mitton weighing in a hat-trick.

The Saints hammered Prestatyn 8-0 to march on at the top of the Welsh Premier under-19 League, Ryan Kershaw and Taylor James netted two, with Greg Draper, Aaron Simms, Rhys Cooper and Ryan Pryce getting the others.

AFTER more than three months without a mid-week fixture, Ellesmere Rangers Youth team returned to the pitch to record an outstanding 4-1 victory at favourites Stourbridge to progress into the semi-finals of the Staffordshire FA Midweek Floodlit Youth Cup for the first time since they won the competition back in 2010. Carrying a tired and depleted squad due to nine players being involved the previous day in Shropshire FA's resounding 4-0 victory over Huntingdonshire FA, the result and manner of



Andy Gilson (right) presents a set of football kit, sponsored by Arthurs of Oswestry, to Connor Smyth

## U7 footballers land new kit from Arthurs

A TOP man in Vauxhall who supports football and rugby has presented a Shropshire under-sevens' boys team with a set of kit.

Andy Gilson, Vauxhall Customer Experience and Corporate Strategy Director, made the presentation of the kit to Conor Smyth, manager of the under sevens at Oswestry Boys and Girls Club, at local Vauxhall dealer Arthurs of Oswestry.

At present, the club only has a team of boys in their 'creche' of five to seven year olds who train at Park Hall and play tournaments throughout Shropshire.

He said the club was delighted to be sponsored by Arthurs of Oswestry whose Anthony Jones of their service team is a coach.

Mr Gilson, whose company works closely with the FA at international and grass roots level, praised the Oswestry club on its initiative.

"The Vauxhall sponsorship of Oswestry Boys and Girls Club through our leading dealer Arthurs highlights the importance of supporting the game from the bottom at grass roots level to the top at the international game."

"The support to the Oswestry club showcases just how committed Vauxhall are as a football sponsor," Gilson added.

Anthony Jones said the club appreciated Arthurs support in partnering with them as their sponsor for the remainder of the season.

"Partnering with Oswestry Boys and Girls Club is just the starting point to an exciting sponsorship - highlighting the importance of supporting the game played by the very young."

"As well as Arthurs providing the kit I act as a dedicated member of our staff working closely with the club in terms of time and ideas as part of the support."

"We will also provide ideas to help support the club whether it's transport to games or organising the Christmas party."

The FA Senior National Game Development Manager Peter Ackley said: "The support of the Vauxhall dealership will make a significant difference to football in their local area."

65th minute when O'Reilly's rasping shot was spilled by the keeper leaving Paddy Townsend to follow up the loose ball.

Ellesmere are due to host Hednesford town tonight (thurs) in the Midlands Floodlit Youth League Premier North.

■ After a long break, Oswestry Tigers under-10s returned to action with a 10-0 hammering of Shawbury United. Kyw Dwyer led the way with a hat-trick while there were two goals apiece from Max Thomas and Seb Williams.

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# SPORT

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Staggering medal haul for Titans  
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**Football**  
Youngsters kitted out by sponsor  
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## Harriers sextet receive call-up

SIX Maldwyn Harriers have been selected to represent North Wales in the Inter-counties cross-country in Birmingham on Saturday.

Excellent races during the season see Chloe Evans and Margo Martin selected for the under-17 women, Meg Randell and Olivia Sofianos called up for the girls under-15s, while Joseph Crutchley will run in the under-15 boys and Dillon Gill in the under-13 boys.

Meanwhile, the Harriers have withdrawn from the Youth Development League as some of the travelling required to take part in meetings was becoming problematic. However, the club have been accepted to compete in the Shropshire Young Athletes Track & Field League and have also been invited to compete as guests in the Cheshire League.

High-flying Oswestry stepped up their push for the North Wales Hockey League crown with a hard-fought 2-1 win over Dysynni at Oswestry School.

Despite below their best, the home side managed to prevail in a sometimes scrappy affair to maintain their challenge with just one game remaining, at home to Bangor City, in a couple of weeks.

Charles Evans gave them the lead and, after Dysynni levelled, James Duxbury pounced for a late winner. Star performer was stand-in Ross Bladen, who played in goal for the first time.

## Saints sign up Fowler

MIDFIELDER Lee Fowler has become the third capture for The New Saints in the past month as the Welsh Premier high-flyers strengthen their hand for the title run-in.

Following hard on the heels of youngster Ryan Edwards and defender Curtis Jones, 30-year-old Fowler – a former Wales under-21 player – this week joined TNS, who are on course to defend their league crown.

The Cardiff-born midfielder began his career with Coventry City and has had spells with Huddersfield Town, Newport County, Forest Green, Wrexham and Fleetwood Town.

Most recently, the former Wales under-21 featured for Kidderminster Harriers.

## Progress pleases boss Popyk

FOUR CROSSES manager Nick Popyk hopes fortunes are looking up in the Spar Mid Wales League division one after seeing his side record back-to-back wins following the 1-0 success over Tywyn Bryncrug.

Despite several wasted chances, an unchanged Crosses side took the lead through top-scorer Gaz Jones and held firm for the points to ease any lingering basement concerns.

"We should have made the result more comfortable," said Popyk.

"We created a lot but couldn't kill the game off so the scoreline makes the game look closer than it was."

"Overall it's great to get another win to drag us a way from the bottom end of the table and the clean sheet was more than welcome."

Berriew made the perfect start to what is shaping up to be a tough month by winning 3-2 at Llanfair United to reach the quarter-finals of the Spar Mid Wales League Cup.

They must again visit Llanfair again in the league at the end of the month.

They also travel to Waterloo Rovers and host improving Llansantffraid Village in the coming weeks as they look to step up the pressure on leaders Llandrindod Wells.

This weekend, Berriew host local rivals Dyffryn Banw in the fourth round of the Central Wales Cup, a side they defeated 4-1 in the league earlier this year.

Other fourth-round ties see Cymru Alliance side Guilsfield host Rhosgoch while Llanrhaeadr head to Montgomery Town for their delayed third-round clash.

## Rogers eyeing up a trophy haul

MORDA United continue their pursuit of silverware then they visit Clee Hill in the last 16 of the Shropshire FA Challenge Cup on Saturday – with a quarter-final trip to Weston Rhyn awaiting the winners.

The Weston Road side are also going well in the Mercian Regional League premier division cup after clinching the place in the last eight with a 4-1 passage against AFC Bridgnorth reserves last week.

They will now host Church Stretton.

Boss Craig Rogers certainly believes that his side, who are also in the mix in the league title race, can make a challenge for cup glory on two fronts.

"We know it's going to be a big ask as there are a lot of good teams still left," said Rogers.

"But were one of the better sides in the

league and we've got to be looking to win both cups."

Morda moved into the quarter-finals of the league cup with their 4-1 victory over Bridgnorth reserves.

But Rogers feels there is room for improvement.

"The first half was good, we were 4-1 up, but took our foot off the gas a bit and were poor in the second half," he said.

"We could have done better, but there were positives as we have not played a lot and the players have managed to get minutes under their belts."

Clee Hill's pitch has been struggling with the wet weather this year.

Last Saturday's home clash against FC Oswestry was postponed due to a water-logged surface.

## Miles out but Dan joins the attack

IT'S a case of one in one out as Oswestry's cricketers assemble their squad ahead of the forthcoming season in the Birmingham League division one.

After back-to-back promotions, spirits are high in the Morda Road camp – but they have lost one of last season's key players, Jonathan Miles.

The 27-year-old former Surrey left arm seam bowler, who also contributed several useful runs down the order, has left to join a club in Lincolnshire.

But while he heads for the exit, another opening bowler, Dan Bowen, has joined up for the new campaign from county rivals Whitthurch.

Having also featured for Shrewsbury, Bowen made his Shropshire debut aged 21 in the Trophy fixture against Cumberland during the 2010 season. His figures of 2-27 included the scalp of ex-pro Gary Pratt, the Cumberland captain.

### Strong

A strong opening bowler capable of bowling quickly and swinging the ball away from the right hander, Bowen recorded Shropshire's best one-day bowling figures, 6-25, in the victory over Staffordshire in 2010.

Oswestry's club captain, Mike Robinson, said: "We're very disappointed to see Jonathan go, but it's one in, one out as we've signed Dan Bowen from Whitthurch who is a very good, consistent bowler. Playing in division one next season is a really exciting prospect, there's a real buzz about the place as it's a massive step up and it's going to be a far stiffer test for us."

The Morda Road club are also looking to further pep up their attack by signing a paceman from South Africa, who reputedly bowls at over 90mph.

Meanwhile, Whitthurch Cricket Club are on the lookout for new players for the coming season, either to play on Saturdays, mid-week, or for the junior sections. Contact Nick Remon on 07516-061529 or Brian Whitley 07985-760788.

# TNS STRIVING TO REWRITE HISTORY

**HEAD coach Carl Darlington believes a place in the Welsh Premier history books will spur The New Saints to a recording-breaking eighth league crown this season.**

The high-flying Saints hold a three points lead over Airbus UK with a game in hand, and will be out to tighten their grip at the top of the table in Saturday's televised home clash with old foes Bangor City (3.15pm).

Unbeaten at home this season, they will be in confident mood as they chase a league and Cup double which is now firmly in their sight.

With the all-conquering Barry Town having landed seven league crowns, the Saints now have the chance of passing that record should they lift the title for the eighth time this season.

"To be three points clear at the top of the table and also in the Welsh Cup semi-finals is a great place to be, and if someone had offered us that at the start of the season, then we'd definitely have snapped their hands off," said Darlington.

### Finals

"We've got nine league games left, and for us they are nine cup finals. If we win all nine, then the league is ours, but we know there is still a long way to go.

"But there is a great incentive as we want to win the league more times than anyone else, that is our aim, and there is a chance to do it this season."

Although the Saints can even afford a couple of defeats, they will be anxious to avoid any slip-ups in the run-in to the season.

Darlington believes the squad's strength in depth will prove key in the coming weeks with the return of Simon Spender and Ryan Fraughan after injury increasing the options.

As well as the league, the

**By John Bridgwater**

Saints are well on course to lift the Welsh Cup for a fourth time after reaching the semi-finals with a 2-0 home passage against title rivals Airbus UK last Saturday.

"We got to the semi-finals last season, and we desperately want to get to the final this time around as it's the most prestigious cup competition in Wales," added Darlington.

"We certainly deserve to be in the last four, as we felt we controlled the game for 90 minutes against Airbus.

"We never looked in trouble apart from set plays while we had 14 shots on goal from open play and their keeper made some great saves. We have a fair few chances, particularly when we changed a gear in the second half.

"We were really pleased with the performance and the way we passed the ball, we played some good attractive football."

**Competition favourites**  
The New Saints have been drawn against Bala Town in the semi-final of the FAW Welsh Cup.

The tie will take place at Airbus UK's Hollingsworth

Group Stadium on Saturday, April 5 (2.30).

The two sides also came face to face at the semi-final stage in 2012, with the Saints running out convincing 4-0 winners before going on the lift the trophy with a 2-0 final victory over Cefn Druids thanks to goals from Greg Draper and Alex Darlington.

TNS are again the bookies favourites this season as they chase a repeat of their Welsh Cup and Welsh Premier double that year.

They have so far beaten Conwy Borough and Carmarthen Town, before seeing off title rivals Airbus UK 2-0 last Saturday to secure their place in last four.

In the other semi-final at Newtown's Latham Park, Aberystwyth will take on lower league Holywell, who have been the surprise package this season.

The first club from the third tier of Welsh football ever to reach the last four, Holywell – who play in the Welsh Alliance – are now potentially just one game away from appearing in the Europa League.

The draw was made at St Davids Hotel, Cardiff, by Wales players Andy King and Sam Vokes.

## Top tips from ex-England ace



England World cup winner Neil Back during his visit to Oswestry Rugby Club

ENGLAND World Cup winner Neil Back has visited Oswestry Rugby Club to put the players through their paces.

Eagles secretary Paul Wapshott successfully applied to have a training session led by the retired ex-England and Leicester Tigers star, who was part of the England team that triumphed in Australia in 2003.

Last weekend, Oswestry put up a brave fight before being edged out 26-22 at home to title-chasing Manchester Medics in rugby's South Lancs and Cheshire League Two. The Eagles will aim to bounce back when they visit Wallacey on Saturday, with their hosts languishing at the foot of the league. Meanwhile, Oswestry II went down 24-15 at Northwich II in the North West League division four (south).

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